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APN REBUTTAL OF SVERDLOVSK ANTHRAX 'ACCIDENT' CITED

ID281102 Hamburg DPA in German 0956 GMT 28 Mar 80 ID

[Text] Berlin--After a delay of several days the semi-official Soviet news agency APN has now taken up the events in the Sverdlovsk region where a year ago an outbreak of fatal anthrax occurred which, according to U.S. information, may have been due to an accident involving bacteriological weapons.

In April 1979, APN says, an "accidental" outbreak of anthrax occurred among animals in the Sverdlovsk region. As a result of the processing and consumption of the meat of these animals, which was sold without observing the regulations on veterinary supervision, people became infected. Warnings were published in the local press at the time.

It was known and had been repeatedly reported in the scientific press, that the Sverdlovsk region has been at risk for many centuries from the mass infection of animals with anthrax. It had not yet been possible to totally eradicate the disease. There is no connection between the convention banning bacteriolgical weapons and the incident of spring 1979. "Consequently there is no reason for the U.S. side to raise this question."

U.S., CHINA, NATO CAUSE STALEMATE AT DISARMAMENT TALKS

ID291953 Moscow TASS in English 1934 GMT 29 Mar 80 ID

[Text] Geneva, March 29, TASS--TASS correspondent Georgiy Dragunov report:

The work of the Disarmament Committee which was presided over in March by Beijing's representative, clearly showed who is against effective measures to curb the arms race. Throughout the month the committee was practically marking time and did not actually start concrete talks on questions of disarmament which should be solved as soon as possible in the interests of peace and international security.

The reason for such stalemate is the obstructionist position of the USA, a number of its NATO allies as well as China who all seek to block the committee's work at putting forward ever new questions which have nothing to do with the business in hand and which are often provocative, anti-Soviet in character, or by imposing lengthy discussions on artificially created procedural problems.

It is noted here that the Chinese delegate, evidently pursuing provocative aims, incited the "representative" of Pol Pot's bloody clique to ask the committee to give him the floor. At the same time manoeuvres are being undertaken to deprive the delegate of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam of an opportunity to make a statement on the question of prohibition of chemical weapons. Meantime Vietnam, which fell victim to a full-scale chemical war during the U.S. aggression, has a lot to say on this question which is one of the main items on the committee's agenda.

The attempts to bloc the committee's work are widely critisized here. Most of the delegations express deep concern over the deterioration of the international situation through the fault of imperialist circles and the Beijing hegemonists who cooperate with them. This has left its mark on the situation in the Disarmament Committee.

Speaking at the committee's meeting, Imre Komives, Hungary's permanent representative, read out a joint statement of a group of socialist countries exposing the obstructionist policy of the NATO countries and China and stressing that all the responsibility for the present abnormal situation in the committee rests with these states which have taken course toward spurring up the arms race and which seek to undermine the work of the Disarmament Committee. It is said in the statement that the committee should immediately resume its normal work. The socialist countries, for their part, are prepared to cooperate constructively with other delegations so that the committee accomplish the tasks confronting it.

TEPLOV FAULTS WASHINGTON ON ARMS LIMITATION STAND

ID290441 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpt] Analyst Vladimir Teplov examines some aspects of President Carter's foreign policy.

Some organizations in the United States, like the Committee on the Present Danger and the Coalition for Peace Through Strength, have an important role to play on the United States' political scene. These organizations, which consists of the rightwing politicians and retired army officers, have long been acting as the lobby of the military and industrial complex with the objective of shaping the United States foreign policy in its favor. The main demand to the Carter administration is that it should abandon its policy of cooperation with the Soviet Union in arms limitation and in arms reduction. These organizations are also pressing for a sharp increase of the military budget and for adopting new programs of arms buildup.

Over the past few months, however, the hawks have considerably reduced their attacks on the administration and one may even get the impression that the advocates of cold war and the arms race have finally changed their minds and have been appeased by policy changes adopted by the administration in recent times. In September of last year, the President issued a directive on the procedures for future talks on limiting the arms race. The New York TIMES points out that the directive had come as a shock even to some of the most experienced United States negotiators working in this field. The President suggested that United States delegations to talks on limiting the arms race should press for what amounts to a unilateral disarmament of the opposite side. It is quite clear that this approach doomed any such future talks to failure and turned them into a cover for the continued arms race.

As a result of this new policy, the American side has refused to implement a whole number of understandings on disarmament which were reached between President Leonid Brezhnev and President Carter at their Vienna summit in June of last year. The joint communique on the summit called, for example, for the immediate resumption of Soviet-American talks on restricting the sales and supply of conventional weapons. It also provided for talks on limiting military activity in the Indian Ocean region. The Soviet-American talks on the latter subject, as we all know, were interrupted by the American side back in February 1978, and the talks on restricting the sales and supplies of conventional weapons have been sabotaged by the Carter administration since December of 1978.

In the 6 months from the Vienna summit to the events in Afghanistan in January of this year, the Carter administration had failed to give its agreement to the resumption of talks on these subjects. The United States' moves during the subsequent period from late 1979 to the beginning of this year also followed a scenario which could well be written by hawks of the Coalition for Peace Through Strength. In December, the United States pressed its West European NATO allies into accepting new Eurostrategic weapons on their soil. The Soviet side could put only one and very obvious interpretation on that United States move, taking it as an attempt to change the existing rough balance in nuclear missiles between the Soviet Union and the United States.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD301525 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Vladimir Konstantinovich Katin, APN political observer, Vladimir Borisovich Lomeyko, LITERATURNAYA GAZETA political observer, and Gennadiy Makhaylovich Ariyevich, all-union radio international section commentator--recorded]

[Text] [Ariyevich] Good morning, esteemed comrades. Two fundamentally different foreign political courses are now particularly clearly visible on the international scene. The Soviet Union and its friends and allies are resolutely rebuffing the aggressive impulses of the opponents of detente and are waging a consistent struggle for the strengthening of peace and international cooperation. Meanwhile, the United States and the NATO leadership, having carried out a sharp turn in their foreign policy, are making efforts to undermine detente and are whipping up the arms race under the illusion that they will be able to achieve military superiority and dictate their will to the countries of socialism. Insofar as such a policy is divorced from reality, it is inevitably characterized by dangerous adventurism and in these conditions the coordinated joint foreign policy efforts of the socialist countries take on a special importance. Now once again, just the other day, at the 12th Congress of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, Hungary has voiced its firm determination, together with the other socialist countries, to strengthen peace and defend detente. The first secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, Janos Kadar, in his report at the congress recalled, among other things, the proposal by the Warsaw Pact countries that an international conference on military detente and disarmament in Europe be convened at political level and called on NATO to postpone the decision on the deployment of new American medium-range missiles on the continent.

[Lomeyko] The course toward strengthening peace that is being pursued by the socialist countries follows directly from their internal policy, which is directed toward improving the life of the people and developing socialist democracy. This was vividly confirmed at the congress of the Hungarian communists.

[Ariyevich] Precisely in order that the peoples of the fraternal countries may labor in peace to solve the tasks of socialist and communist construction, the states of the socialist comity are endeavoring, by their joint efforts, to secure the peaceful conditions necessary for the creative toil of their peoples. Thus, guests from two of the fraternal countries have recently been in Moscow: the Hungarian foreign minister, Puja, and the Czechoslovak foreign minister, Chnoupek. In the course of the talks that were held, they discussed prospects for the further strengthening and development of relations of fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation between the USSR, the Hungarian People's Republic and the CSSR. At the same time, much attention was given to key international problems directly connected with the tasks of intensifying the joint struggle to strengthen peace. The Moscow meetings have once again shown that there exists among the fraternal countries a complete unity of views.

U.S. Anti-Soviet Sanctions

[Lomeyko] That unity and cohesion is, I should say, an eyesore to those who would like to drive a wedge into relations between the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

Thus, for example, the White House, having announced the introduction of trade and economic sanctions against the Soviet Union, was in a hurry to issue an assurance that they did not apply to the other socialist countries. This is a provocative tactic aimed at weakening the unity of all the forces working for peace and progress. Thus, against the background of the concerted efforts of the socialist countries in favor of peace and detente, what stands out is the growing discontent of the West European allies of the United States over its hegemonist policy. How else but as total disregard of the national interests of France, the FRG, Italy and all the other Western countries can one explain the behavior of the American President in making decisions which they, in turn, are obliged to carry out--decisions, moreover, of the greatest significance for the West's political, economic and cultural ties with the East. On his own and without consulting his allies, Carter has announced economic sanctions against the USSR and his boycott of the Olympics, thereby confronting them with a fait accompli. As if that were not enough, the master of the White House then proclaims that the other presidents and premiers are not falling over themselves to carry out the measures that he has announced.

[Ariyevich] Yes, and just now many Western magazines and papers are openly complaining that Carter is not taking any notice of the opinions of his allies and is not consulting them. So that talk of partnership in the Western world amounts to empty words.

[Lomeyko] While the representatives of the socialist states are talking constructively about how to consolidate detente, how to deepen economic cooperation, how to expand cultural ties, how to reach agreement on disarmament measures, at meetings of the NATO countries, as a rule, everything is the opposite. It is difficult to recall an instance in recent years of the NATO men supporting even one of the initiatives of the Warsaw Pact countries. This year, the agendas are so full of the words "sanctions," "embargo" and "boycott" as to dazzle the eye. Now we have Carter trying to twist the arms not only of his own sportsmen but of those of other countries as well, to force them to stay away from the Olympic games for the sake of pandering to his personal ambitions.

[Ariyevich] Washington is trying to foist the boycott decision on other states at government level and then force the national Olympic committees to submit to that decision. This is meeting with increasing resistance in various countries--Britain, for example, whose government is fully in sympathy with Carter over the whole thing. The British DAILY TELEGRAPH recently published a statement by the president of the British Olympic Association, Follows, condemning the proposed holding of so-called alternative games. The paper quoted Follows as saying that the same point of view had been expressed by representatives of all 15 Olympic committees of the West European countries that took part in the Brussels meeting. There is no doubt, says the DAILY TELEGRAPH, that the British National Olympic Association will decide to participate in the Olympic games. Britain will send at least 15 sports teams to Moscow and there is a growing probability that American sportsmen will also go to the Olympics.

[Lomeyko] Or take the economic sanctions. Having put his own farmers on the rocks, Carter is now tackling the firms. He recently announced further limitations on the export of technological equipment to the Soviet Union and is trying to get his allies in Western Europe to do the same.

What can be said about this? Carter will be punishing, above all, his own business circles. After all, the Americans do not do business with the Soviet Union because they like the color of our eyes. They make money by trade. Markets for nearly all goods have, of course, already been divided up. In the West, including the United States, business activity is declining; there are not enough orders and unemployment is growing. Inflation there has reached unprecedented proportions--up to 18 percent per annum.

U.S. Internal Situation

[Katin] Incidentally, in analyzing Carter's conduct, some political observers point out that it is not for nothing that he is fanning hysteria on international issues: He is doing it in order to divert the attention of his own people from their extremely acute internal problems. It is understandable. Election time is approaching and all the promises made 4 years ago--to reduce unemployment, curb inflation and achieve greater social justice in the country--are unfulfilled. More than that, the position has even worsened and will continue to get worse. Racial discrimination in the United States of America remains one of the most acute problems. On becoming President, Carter appointed a few Negroes to prestige positions--at the United Nations and in his government. But that does not help the millions of American Negroes who still remain second class citizens. Thus, in the past 10 years, Negro incomes have fallen far more rapidly than the incomes of white Americans. In the Unites States now, 1 American in 16 is unemployed; among Negroes, the figure is 1 in 4. One Negro child in three cannot finish school because of government education cuts. Or take the original inhabitants of America, the Indians. Carter frowns when he hears about this. Of course, he has no time to think of the 800,000 of his felow citizens who have been herded onto reservations. He prefers to concern himself with the fate of selected individual dissidents, since they do not live in America and he does not have to allocate government funds to protect them from the disease and hunger from which thousands of Indians die every year without ever reaching even the average life expectancy, which, among the American natives, is a mere 44 years.

[Ariyevich] Apart from the problems of which we have already spoken, there is a mass of other unsolved questions in America. We have mentioned unemployment, for example, and incidentally the decision by Carter to curtail trade and economic relations with the Soviet Union in the first instance hits the Americans themselves, by reducing employment, for example.

[Lomeyko] Thus, in a recent conversation which he had with me, a director of the West German firm Mannesmann, Schulder, said: Trade sanctions are useless; they can only upset the existing mechanism of international trade but will never achieve their aims. In 1962, at the insistence of Adenauer, we imposed an embargo on the supply of pipes to the Soviet Union, said Schulder, and what happened? First, the French, the Swedes, and others jumped into the gap and supplied the pipes that were lacking, and second the Soviet Union regrouped it means and built its own first-class pipe-rolling works. During my recent trip to West Germany I met managers of major firms and businesses who are conducting business with the Soviet Union. What is characteristic is that the captains of such gigantic businesses as Salzgitter, Mannesmann, Siemens, Ferrostaal and others do not wish to hear about any sanctions, although I must point out that pressure on the part of the American administration has not diminished.

Some people in Western Europe are asking the question: Are not the Americans preparing to undermine the economic links between the West Europeans and the East so that by this means they can weaken the economic positions of Western Europe on the world markets, where the West Europeans are appearing as competitors of the Americans? If that is so, then Washington's double morality is threatening to spill over from politics to economics.

[Ariyevich] It must be said that conferences between the West European partners themselves are not notable for particular unanimity. In an atmosphere of contradictions a special session of the European Parliament was held in Strasbourg. The agenda included the question of the purchasing price of agricultural products. This problem has always raised serious contradictions among the member countries of the Common Market. The summit meeting of the Common Market countries has been postponed for an unspecified period. It should have opened tomorrow in Brussels. According to the French paper LE MATIN, having postponed the session of the EEC Council, the nine admitted that these meetings can no longer solve the insuperable difficulties which have arisen in the life of the community.

PRC-US Relations

[Katin] Returning to the theme of Washington's diktat, I would like to point out that relations between Beijing and the NATO countries also are developing according to the American scenario. The official visit to Beijing by the defense minister of Great Britain, Francis Pym, gives evidence of this. This visit took place immediately following the talks in Washington by one of the deputy ministers of foreign affairs of China. The Washington talks one must say, were marked with a qualitatively new turn in cooperation between the United States and China. For the first time Washington openly gave its assent to the supply of American military supplies to China. True to say, these supplies are shamedly being called non offensive, but as the British defence minister hastily said on arrival in Beijing, his country is prepared to supply China with an extensive assortment of arms, in particular up to 100 planes of the Harrier vertical-take-off type. Beijing has been showing interest in these planes for a long time. In practical terms Washington and London are embarking on a course of open military cooperation with Beijing and Beijing, having cast aside all camouflage, is openly allying itself with its deadly foes of the past. In general in the west they do not hide the fact that with the help of the Chinese card they are trying to achieve a change in the strategic balance of forces in the world which would be of advantage to them.

[Ariyevich] Incidentally, I consider it important to add that in trying to achieve this Washington would like to include its West European partners in its course in the Near and Middle East. The fundamental argument used in this instance is that there is apparently a threat to the vital interests of the West being created there, its traditional sources for the supply of oil. Everything is being used, even blatant falsification, in order to justify and establish grounds for the United States' own military activities in this region, and to make it appear as a response and a necessity, but in the meantime it is absolutely obvious that American reaction to events, at first in Iran and then in Afghanistan--extremely neurotic, militant and aggressive--is a result of long-term conceptions by the United States which envisage the establishment by any means of their control over this region of the globe, which is important for strategic and other respects.

U.S.-Iranian Situation Tense

[Katin] Using the Afghan events as a pretext, the United States is escalating its interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and is trying to render null and void the gains of the April 1978 revolution. Not satisfied with this, Washington is involving China, Egypt, Israel, and Pakistan in particular in this dangerous game.

[Ariyevich] Washington is increasingly excelling itself in the use of methods of exerting pressure on Iran in order to exploit the situation in this region for its own strategic and economic interests. The pretext, as previously, is the U.S. diplomats held hostage under guard in Tehran.

[Katin] Incidentally, this problem remains unsolved to date, and now in the United States itself there can be more often heard the accusation that the guilty party in this problem is none other than President Carter himself. Thus the Washington POST reported on a secret report prepared for the Permanent Select Committee of Intelligence of the House of Representatives. This report says that in essence President Carter himself provoked the seizure of the U.S. Embassy in the Iranian capital.

[Ariyevich] The fact is borne in mind that he allowed the shah to enter the United States, ignoring all warnings.

[Katin] Carter did not heed warnings to the effect that such an action might result in the seizure of Americans as hostages.

[Ariyevich] In Tehran, Qom and other Iranian cities numerous demonstrations were held in connection with the decision by Egypt to offer permenent asylum to the former shah. Participants in these demonstrations are evaluating the flight of the shah from Panama as a result of an American plot.

One curious detail: chief editor As-Sabri of the Cairo paper AL AKHBAR published an article which asserts that the shah fled from Panama because it seems that plans by the American CIA to poison him, in order to open up the way for a solution to the problem of the U.S. hostages in Tehran, became known to him. The aim of the publication is clear and that is to prove, as it were, that the United States is not only not insuring protection for the shah but is also harboring perfidious plans against him which Cairo is upsetting. Clear also, in a manner of speaking, is the address from which this special order originates--Washington.

The United States did everything possible to prevent the surrender of the former shah into the hands of Iranian justice. To judge by all appearances, the Panama Island of Contedora to where the exiled shah was transferred from the United States last autumn, was acknowledged by Washington to be an unreliable asylum, and an envoy of the Carter administration organized the shah's departure on a U.S. military aircraft from Panama.

Washington is protecting the former Iranian monarch for many reasons. First of all, a public trial for him would be a public trial for the United States itself, since the shah's regime was supported by U.S. weapons. With the shah's help the United States was plundering the national riches of Iran, first and foremost its oil. The shah's regime was an obedient policeman in the Near and Middle East. The shah's secret police SAVAK was a subsidiary of the CIA, torturing over 100,000 Iranian patriots, participants in peaceful demonstrations. Here is just one admission by one of the former leaders of SAVAK, (Zana), which was made to the American magazine SEVEN DAYS: Our weapons of torture, he says, came from the United States.

For example, a weapon which was called apollo, is a helmet which was put on the victim's head and which echoed all sounds which emanated from him. If the prisoner started crying and shouting under torture, all these sounds were repeated within his brain. So we placed the helmet on the head of the prisoner and subjected him to a strong electric shock. The cries of the tortured person, the executioner says, made the torture more effective.

[Katin] A trial of the former shah might shed more light on the dark deeds and plans of Washington in this region. The United States does not want to let this happen.

[Lomeyko] Now the former shah has been granted asylum, as we know, under the roof of President Anwar as-Sadat. I believe, however, that it is not the tradition of Eastern hospitality which is in operation here. Cairo was the first stop for the overthrown Iranian monarch when in January of last year he was fleeing from the wrath of his own people. Even at that time a plan for intervention was under discussion in Egypt with the objective of quashing the revolution in Iran. The Americans offered transport aircraft to deploy Egyptian troops to Tehran.

Now at the present time there is a U.S. naval armada off the coasts of Iran. Yet all this, as I see it, represents links in a single chain. In this connection I want to make the point that U.S. Vice President Mondale, replying to a question on whether his government intends to undertake a naval blockade of Iran at the present time and other similar operations, recently said we have the most varied scenarios and possible operations constantly under review, and I would not like to go into details.

However, I believe that this means, translated from diplomatic language: Watch out! In short, Washington is acting in an intimidating and threatening fashion and, moreover, calling on its European allies to follow its example. Thus trade between the United States and Iran has already ceased. Iranian currency assets in the United States and a number of European capitals have been frozen.

[Katin] For my part I should like to add that the Washington POST completes what the U.S. vice president did not say. I read there the other day that the Carter administration is currently closely studying a Pentagon plan to occupy the Persian Gulf Island of Kharq which is a transit stage for a considerable proportion of Iran's oil exports. Also envisaged are: bombing Iran, a naval blockade of that country, and mining the Persian Gulf.

[Lomeyko] All this, I believe, amounts to a continued U.S. failure to reconcile itself to the loss of Iran, an Iran in which a dense network of military and espionage bases were set up at one time next door to the Soviet Union.

The hostages episode and the universal anti-American mood in Iran and even hatred toward the United States in that country are all the direct result of U.S. policy in Iran, the bitter fruit which they themselves nurtured on Iranian soil.

[Ariyevich] The Indian capital of Delhi was the venue this week of an international conference on peace and security in Asia. The conference decisively condemned the U.S. administration for its pretensions to the right to intervene militarily in the internal affairs of Persian Gulf states. The resolution on this issue contains a call to launch a broad-based campaign for the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. Navy from the waters of that area and for U.S. military intervention policy to be rebuffed, including the use of the rapid deployment force.

[Lomeyko] Of course, the crisis situation which has now arisen in the Persian Gulf area and for which the United States is to blame cannot be resolved militarily. It can only be settled by the unconditional repudiation of intervention in the internal affairs of other countries.

[Ariyevich] And I feel that there is a direct link between what is happening now in the Persian Gulf area and the western part of the Indian Ocean, and the fact the United States has, in fact, for decades been disrupting any just settlement in the Near East.

Palestinian Automony Talks

Egypt and Israel which are engaged in bilateral negotiations have become isolated in the Near East. They have started a tug-of-war of their own. The Alexandria meeting held the other day to discuss the so-called "administrative autonomy" for the population of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip ended essentially without result. The entire Camp David process, that Washington brainchild, is coming to a standstill. Now President Carter has summoned As-Sadat and Begin to the United States for emergency talks at the beginning of April. There will be more talk about administrative autonomy for Palestinians. Agreement on this, according to the Camp David pact, must come into force on 26 May. By all appearances, however, this deadline will not be met. What do you think, Vladimir Konstantinovich?

[Katin] I think you are right. The divergences which have formed in the positions of Cairo and Tel Aviv are different interpretations of the concept of autonomy.

But surely this is not the point at issue. Surely the settlement of the Palestine issue does not lie in reducing to a common denominator two concepts of the autonomy of 1 million Palestinians. With what ease As-Sadat disposes of their fate, while bickering with affected rage with Begin about specific paragraphs referring to executive bodies on the ancient Arab lands which Israel has occupied. At As-Sadat's pleasure 2.5 million Palestinian refugees living in neighboring Arab countries have been left right outside the debated issue.

I once had the opportunity to visit Palestine refugee camps in Syria, Lebanon and Jordan. You know, it is an uncanny sight, the endless blocks of tents stretching as far as the horizon, whole towns of them. Just imagine the generations of people who have grown up without a homeland. This is the fate to which the Israeli aggressors have doomed an entire nation.

[Ariyevich] Vladimir Konstantinovich, I feel it would not be out of place to say a few words to remind us of the crux of the Palestine problem.

[Katin] Of course. A UN resolution dated 28 November 1947 envisaged the creation of two independent states on the territory of the former British mandated territory--a Jewish and an Arab state. However, after the Jewish state of Israel was set up, its leaders, international Zionism and primarily the United States did everything to disrupt the implementation of the second part of the UN resolution. After slaughtering some of the Arabs and driving others off their land, the Israelis grabbed their territory and have dug in their heels to this day on the question of the Arabs' rights to have their own state.

This in a nutshell is the essence of the problem, and no one denies its complexity. But no one can deny that realistic ways of solving it do exist. From 1947 to the present day the United Nations has adopted so many resolutions, decisions and recommendations on this matter that if Israel had implemented them there would by now be no Palestine problem. The main point at issue here is that the Palestine problem cannot be resolved without the direct and immediate participation of the Palestinians themselves.

With the collaboration of Egypt too the Palestinians are being proposed a loose sort of autonomy. In essence this is supposed to legitimize the Israeli occupation and end the Palestine problems as it were.

[Lomeyko] I think that someone here is in a big hurry to get it done, not least of all President Carter. Evidently the White House is worried that these agreements are still only on paper just 2 months before the deadline expires.

[Ariyevich] However, President Carter is clothing his concern in farcical pomp. "It is my hope," he said at a ceremony to mark the anniversary of Camp David, "that the scarcely glimmering light we have lit will kindle a bright torch of peace."

[Katin] No, there will be no torch of peace. It is most likely that there will be another show staged in Washington at the beginning of April under the Camp David set-up at which Carter is to play his winning role, his performance for the audience, as the skillful political peacemaker. In this, of course, all eyes and spotlights will be focused on him, while the whole myriad of America's other problems will seem to be pushed into the background.

And in all this game none of the three mentioned leaders will, of course, have the slightest concern for the Palestinian people living in exile or under the heel of the occupiers. Their self-seeking interests come to the fore, as we see.

[Ariyevich] Arab delegates at the United Nations have supported a proposal to convene an urgent meeting of the Security Council to debate the Palestine question. The UN Palestinian Rights Committee has requested that it be held on Monday 31 March.

The intrigues of imperialism against peace evoke the concern of the international public. Their representatives, as at the Delhi peace champions' meeting, are calling on all people of good will to organize a powerful national and international campaign in defense of detente against the arms race.

On that note we wind up our program and take our leave of you. Thank you for your attention and best regards.

CARTER LETTER TO KHOMEYNI DENIED; TEHRAN COMMENT

LD301704 Moscow TASS in English 1652 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tehran, March 30, TASS--As Tehran Radio reported, U.S. President Jimmy Carter's message to Ayatollah Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic revolution, was delivered to the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs through the Swiss Embassy in Tehran. Khomeyni's office decided to bring its contents to the knowledge of the Iranian people.

In his message, Carter states that a very tense international situation "made us all make mistakes in the past." It is pointed out that the former shah was received in the USA ostensibly from humanitarian sentiments and for medical treatment and that his departure from Panama for Egypt was the shah's private decision. Carter asserted that the USA was not involved in any way in the talks between As-Sadat and the shah on the granting of asylum to the latter in Egypt.

According to the same reports, the said message expressed consent to the proposal made, according the Carter, by the Iranian side on setting up a bilateral commission to consider the problems existing between the USA and Iran.

The newspaper JOMHURIY-E ESLAMI writes today that Carter's message signifies the acknowledgement of the impasse in which U.S. diplomacy found itself. The newspaper points out that Carter admitted that he is at the head of the political regime which engages in reprehensible affairs. However, these admissions do not justify in any way the U.S. crimes in Iran, Chile, Vietnam, and other countries of the world. They are only in evidence of U.S. powerlessness to solve the Iranian-U.S. conflict by measures that are customary with oppressors.

Washington, March 30, TASS--Following the publication of the full text of Carter's message in Tehran, the White House made a statement asserting that "the President has sent no message to Khomeyni or anyone else."

Tehran, March 30, TASS--In connection with the statement by a White House spokesman, Tehran Radio points out: "The arsenal of Western diplomacy abounds in lies and cunning. This is why the publication of Carter's message by Khomeyni's office caught all of them unawares."

MOSCOW PERSIAN ON U.S. 'BLACKMAIL' OF IRAN

NC291343 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 29 Mar 80 NC

[Yuriy Soltan commentary]

[Text] The campaign of blackmail and intimidation against Iran is flagrantly intensifying and these threats are not merely verbal. A complete blockade of Iran and the introduction of a military blow (?are steps) for which Washington is actively preparing. More than 30 American warships have been stationed near the Iranian coast. Exercises have been held on mining the Strait of Hormuz and 2,000 marines have been sent to this area. Before being sent these soldiers went through war exercises in California, under conditions similar to those in Iran.

Washington justifies these steps by saying that they are for the release of the hostages. But it could have achieved their release long ago. The United States only had to agree with Iran's just and legal demands for the extradition of the former shah and for the return of the wealth he pillaged from Iran.

But they do not want to do so and show obstinacy. They belligerently announce throughout the world that they are prepared to protect the shah and to respect the agreement on granting him asylum in the United States, if he wishes. This gives rise to the assumption that it is more beneficial for the Washington administration to have the hostages remain under arrest. This assumption arises from parts of a secret report by the U.S. congressional Select Committee on Intelligence published in the U.S. press.

The facts in this report note that President Carter himself caused the occupation of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran by granting permission for the shah's trip to the United States. Even though he had been given repeated and precise warnings that granting the shah permission to travel to the United States might lead to the occupation of the American Embassy in Tehran and the arrest of American diplomats as hostages, he went ahead. In this secret report it is then stated that the hostages could also have been released later, and that this opportunity arose four different times, in a way which would absolutely not harm the honor and prestige of the United States.

Then why were the President and his clique sitting idle? Because the destiny of their compatriots is not of great importance to them. That which determines U.S. policy on Iran and the other countries of the region is their desire to pocket the key of Iran's oil bonanza and to station American marines there to protect this bonanza. The hostages are only an excuse for the creation of a tense atmosphere to justify U.S. armed intervention. In other words, the United States' hegemonist inclinations, which mainly characterize the foreign policy of the present Washington administration, determine U.S. policy in the Persian Gulf region as well.

U.S. CONTINUES POLICY OF 'PRESSURING' IRAN

LD292358 Moscow TASS in English 1700 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Washington, March 29, TASS--The latest events connected with the arrangement of the former shah's flight from Panama to Egypt, show again that President J. Carter, who never missed a chance for making assurances concerning the United States desire to develop "relations of friendship with the Islamic world", Iran included, has fully discarded such demagogic gestures and continues to pursue an imperialist policy of pressuring Iran, a policy which was formulated in the President's State of the Union Message two months ago. This is a policy of unceremonious interferences in Iran's internal affairs, a policy of threatening the Iranian people unless it accepts American ultimatums. At the same time attempts are being made to persuade the world public that the United States is guided by a desire to avert a "possible Soviet threat," and not by its imperialist selfish interests in the Near and Middle East. At the same time the United States is pressing ahead with its campaign of blackmail and threats against Iran and is planning to take shortly practical steps to secure a settlement of the American-Iranian conflict in line with its interests.

A spokesman of the U.S. State Department stated that his department would finish in a week's time its deliberations on all possible American actions against Iran. He pointed out unambiguously that press reports concerning the United States alleged refusal to use force against Iran were a misinterpretation of American intentions. We do not rule out the possibility of using military force, the spokesman said threateningly.

Another indication of the United States aggressive militaristic plans in the Persian Gulf area is the fact that the Carter administration is planning, according to a UPI report, to ask congressional authority next week to allocate the extra 5.2 billion dollars for increasing American naval presence in the Indian Ocean. Washington is not satisfied with having in the north west of the Indian Ocean a powerful naval armada of over thirty warships including two attack aircraft-carriers with 150 planes on board. All indications are that the United States will further increase the striking power of this naval grouping which poses a growing danger not only to Iran, but also to other states of the region.

ANTI-IRANIAN CAMPAIGN MOUNTS IN UNITED STATES

LD281942 Moscow TASS in English 1925 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Washington, March 28, TASS--Following the flight of the former Iranian shah from Panama to Egypt, an anti-Iranian campaign is gathering momentum in the United States.

Jody Powell, official White House spokesman, said at a press conference that the U.S. administration never excluded the possibility of using military means to resolve the Iranian crisis. The State Department spokesman Hodding Carter made a similar statement, stressing that the United States does not rule out the use of military force against Iran.

Ronald Reagan, running for presidency from the Republican Party, former governor of the state of California, speaking in Milwaukee, the state of Wisconsin, called on the U.S. administration to "toughen" the approach to Iran. Noting that country's great dependence on food supplies and its concern for the freedom of navigation to ensure its oil exports, Ronald Reagan advocated intensified pressure on Iran and even establishment of a naval blockade of the Iranian coast. Similar provocative calls were launched in recent days by another participant in the "presidential race" from the Republican Party, former CIA chief Bush.

These threats against Iran are not, judging by the evidence available, mere declarations. According to ABC television company, the Carter administration has completed revising its policy with regard to Iran, and new steps will probably be taken already during this week. This is in effect confirmed by the statement of the U.S. State Secretary Cyrus Vance in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He stated that United States is again discussing possible measures against Iran.

The Washington POST gives an account of the contents of the documents which the Iranian Government presented to the Panamanian authorities to substantiate the demand for the shah's extradition. The documents cite, among others, examples of large sums of money embezzled by the former monarch for personal enrichment or giving presents to "friends." Millions of dollars went to build sumptuous palaces, purchasing gold and jewellery for members of the shah's family.

Convincing evidence is cited to the effect that almost 3 million dollars had been remitted to the account of the former shah in the U.S. Chase Manhattan Bank, whose Board President D. Rockefeller zealously defends the criminal at present.

The documents submitted to the Panamanian Government also cite facts of cruel tortures to which Iranians were subjected with the knowledge and approval of the former shah.

KUDRYAVTSEV EXPOSES 'HYPOCRISY' OF POLICY TOWARD ISLAM

LD281011 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Mar 80 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Kudryavtsev article under the rubric "Political Observer's Opinion": "Trying on a Sheepskin"]

[Text] If there is something that the U.S. ruling circles have in plenty, it is hypocrisy. They think nothing of portraying the arms race as preparation for disarmament, and armed interference in other countries' affairs as rescuing those countries from the nonexistent "Soviet danger." There are more than enough examples of such hypocrisy, particularly since the United States switched to a policy of confrontation. American propaganda, with not a thought for the laws of logic, does not tie up the loose ends here. As a result, none other than the very originators of all sorts of hypocritical theories end up no better off than at the start.

The U.S. position with regard to Islam and Islamic states serves as one of the most eloquent manifestations of such hypocrisy. No sooner had the United States mounted its military-diplomatic campaign in southwest Asia than U.S. President J. Carter declared that during his presidency he had been struck by "the commonality of the human and moral principles of the American people and Muslims." He backed up his statement with arguments about their common approach to questions of the family and the home, hospitality and so forth. The U.S. ruling circles needed such maxims in order to justify their own interference in the affairs of countries in the Islamic world and to shift the responsibility for that interference onto Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. Here the latter-day "friends" of Islam did not consider the fact that--whether they want it or not--Afghanistan is also one of the states in which the population primarily professes the Islamic religion. The American "friends of Islam" so failed to understand the situation that they made an Islamic state, which was supported in its struggle for sovereignty and national independence by the Soviet Union, a victim of their policy of "punishment."

So much for the notorious hospitality! But perhaps in flirting with Islamic countries the United States hopes that the hospitality of those countries will be manifested in the granting of territory for naval and air bases for the police "quick reaction force"? U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance has even declared that it is a question of "U.S. access to air force and naval installations in Indian Ocean countries." Precisely this is the root of the suddenly declared U.S. "love" of Islam and its adherents.

But the arguments about the "commonality" which supposedly exists between the United States and the Islamic world are meant to disguise not only the present appetites of the American hegemonists. No, it is a question of disguising a policy which runs counter to the interests of Muslim countries and which typifies the entire U.S. foreign policy course with regard to the Near East, southwest Asia and other parts of the world where countries have a population professing Islam. "It is strange," Algerian Foreign Minister M. Benyahia declared on Radio Europe-1, "that those who officially supported Israel's aggression against Arab states in 1967 are now passing themselves off as defenders of Islam." Let us add the universally known fact that without active U.S. support for Israel--and almost every presidential speech mentions the continuation of that support--Tel Aviv could not have captured Arab lands and consolidated its hold on them by driving a section of Palestinian Arabs from their homelands and pursuing a policy of genocide toward those who remained. In other words, American imperialism is using militant Israeli Zionism against Islamic Arab states with the purpose of subjugating the Near East and southwest Asia to its hegemonism.

So much for respect for the family! Tens and hundreds of thousands of Palestinian Arab family homes have been forcibly destroyed and thrown to the wind, so to speak. To this very day Palestinian Arabs are being driven from the most fertile lands, which are being handed over to Israeli settlers.

It is characteristic that the same President who back on 8 February spoke of the "commonality" of the United States and the Islamic world then declared on 4 March that the U.S. vote in the Security Council in support of the UN resolution criticizing Israel's creation of settlements on occupied Arab lands "was the result of a misunderstanding of the content of the resolution." Even in such a matter the United States does not wish to offend its anti-Islamic allies. In this respect it is prepared even to risk exposing itself by appearing in its true role as a false, hypocritical "defender" of Islam. The eminent Libyan leader Jallud has said that the West and reaction are "defending not Muslims but U.S. imperialist interests." Numerous victims of the Israeli Zionists are on the American imperialists' conscience. Does this not expose the United States as the enemy of Muslim peoples?

And what is the worth of the American leaders' arguments about their love of Islam, if you remember that the U.S. ally Israel occupied Jerusalem, defiling Islamic holy places in that city and illegally making it its "capital?" For the United States, if it so wished, could take Israel in hand, just as it intends to do with those developing countries, particularly Persian Gulf countries, which do not wish to follow the dangerous path onto which Pentagon strategists are pushing them. "Those who shout loudest about events in Afghanistan," M. Benyahia said, "are at the same time champions of military intervention against developing countries." Primarily against those where the population professes Islam. In the language of the U.S. ruling circles hospitality means that developing countries should open wide their doors to the American "quick reaction force."

There can be no denying that the Camp David agreements are also directed against the independence of countries in the Muslim Arab East. They are designed to drive a wedge into the ranks of Near East countries, to weaken them in the face of Tel Aviv and thereby open the way to the economic enslavement of Near East countries by the Israeli Zionists backed by American monopolies. The example of Egypt is significant in this respect, as the United States is counting on it as bait to enslave other Muslim countries.

We also must not forget Lebanon, where, thanks to the U.S. ally Israel, military operations have now been continuing for years, as a result of which cities and settlements are being destroyed and hundreds and thousands of people are dying, chiefly the civilian population--women, old people and children. It is widely known that Israel is gambling on splitting Lebanon along religious lines so as to virtually annex the southern part of the country. In this Tel Aviv relies on the reactionary Christian armed forces, openly declaring that it "will not let the Christians come to harm" (here too, as we see, religion is meant to cover up the most overt intervention). In Lebanon, too, the U.S. ally Israel is waging war against Muslims. So why, then, calling itself the "friend" of Islam, does the United States further Israel's anti-Islamic armed policy in Lebanon? The answer is clear: What Israel does is essentially being done by the United States. And these actions are not only imperialist but also anti-Islamic in nature.

In the final analysis the U.S. ruling circles, which call themselves the "friends" and "defenders" of Islam, look ridiculous, particularly in the eyes of those whom they endeavor to portray themselves as protecting.

"The attempts by the patrons of the Israeli aggressor and the organizers of reprisals against Iran to depict themselves as 'defenders of Islam' appear rather clumsy," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev told his voters. "Reality merely confirms this evaluation of the sorry 'defenders of Islam' and of countries whose population professes it."

KORIONOV ON U.S. 'UNSAVORY GAME' AROUND PAKISTAN

ID271453 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Mar 80 p 4 LD

[PRAVDA political observer Vitaliy Korionov article: "A Dirty Game"]

[Text] In Asian countries--and not only there--increasing concern is being aroused by Washington's attempts to turn Pakistan into an obedient instrument of its policy. These actions are an integral part of the risky game being played at present by American ruling circles in the Near East and southwest Asia.

After suffering defeat in Iran, American imperialism moved on to the practical implementation of the plan thought up long ago for creating an extensive military bridgehead in the Near East and southwest Asia region. The failure of calculations associated with Amin's despotism in Afghanistan goaded on the Pentagon still further. Pakistan began to be of key significance in plans directed against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. As the Washington POST explains, "the most important point is that Pakistan is very well situated geographically, since it provides a potential base for support for the Afghan rebels and convenient locations for air bases and naval sites...."

At first the lure of American military and economic aid was brought into play. Z. Brzezinski set off for Islamabad, offering $400 million "as a beginning."

For tactical reasons or in the attempt to win more significant military sops, Islamabad rejected the U.S. offer. Pakistani President Ziaul Haq described that sum as "trivial." As the newspapers reported, Islamabad demanded $2 billion.

Attempts are now being made to involve Saudi Arabia and certain other countries in giving "aid" to Pakistan. A joint statement signed in Washington on 5 March by U.S. President Carter and FRG Chancellor Schmidt says: "The President and the chancellor expressed their governments' determination to make important contributions to common efforts in giving aid to Turkey and Pakistan. In this connection the chancellor proposed a review of the schedule for Pakistan to pay off its debt."

AFP reported that the NATO Military Planning Committee session held in Brussels recently "stressed the significance of military and economic aid to Pakistan."

However, life indicates that in our time fatal consequences await any country following unreservedly in the wake of Washington's policy, which is becoming increasingly adventurist and unpredictable in nature. People in Islamabad cannot help but see the indisputable fact that the result of its foreign policy course is a significant deterioration in relations with neighboring countries. Of course, for those countries it is not a matter of indifference that the United States and China are arming Pakistan.

In an interview for Japan's MAINICHI newspaper Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi stated: "The granting of military aid to Pakistan will benefit neither that country nor its neighbors. We have every reason to be concerned. Three times already since it won independence, Pakistan has carried out acts of aggression against us using weapons supplied by other countries.... We are continuing to devote great attention to the development of relations with China and Pakistan. It is quite clear that the revival of the 'cold war' by China and Pakistan is not reasonable."

But Washington is far from renouncing its designs concerning Pakistan. The American newspapers report that "the United States is actively studying the possibility of restoring and reviving its relations with Pakistan on some more favorable, modified basis." W. Christopher, U.S. deputy secretary of state, has already declared that the administration is "revising and reformulating" its proposal on aid to Pakistan.

Other methods, including blackmail, are also being brought to bear. The Washington POST, making no secret of America's gamble on the possibility of "turning Pakistan into the Americans' henchman in southwest Asia," notes with irritation: "Pakistan is refusing to play the part assigned to it." But matters are by no means confined to irritation. By all appearances certain Washington departments are launching active behind-the-scenes activity in Pakistan. Not shunning any method, they are seeking "more acceptable political figures" on whom to gamble in the future.

As is known, press reports on an attempted coup were recently confirmed officially in Islamabad. The attempted coup, Ziaul Haq stated, "was directed by foreigners." After the President's statement two senior employees of the American Consulate in Lahore--(A. Fuller) and (S. Aysenbraun)--left Pakistan in a hurry....

There is no limit to the cynicism with which the United States implements its policy. Direct interference in another country's internal affairs is justified in terms of the desire to create a government in Islamabad which could resist...the "aggressive designs of the USSR and Afghanistan."

At the same time Washington seeks to assign a more active role in arming Pakistan to Beijing. It is clear from press reports that this question was discussed during the U.S. visit of a Chinese delegation headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Zhang Wenjin. It is also known that a Chinese military delegation headed by Deputy Defense Minister Xiao Ke visited Islamabad the other day.

Ziaul Haq's statement to the Lebanese weekly AL-HAWADITH to the effect that "ties with China are the cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy" has not gone unnoticed by the public. There is talk of a forthcoming visit to Beijing by the Pakistani president. Let us recall in this connection that the Karakoram Highway, constructed with active assistance from China, is being widely used for sending Chinese weapons through Pakistani territory to Afghan Basmak gangs.

It is not hard to see that such a policy is clearly contrary to Pakistan's vital national interests. Even according to official data Pakistan's military expenditure swallows up about 40 percent of budget appropriations. The foreign debt, the Pakistan TIMES newspaper admits, is more than $7 billion. Some $2 billion of this is owed to the United States as a result of American "aid" given as credit since 1969. The country's economy is in dire straits.

Washington's attempts to draw Pakistan into the orbit of its dangerous policy in the guise of "aid" are dictated by American imperialism's selfish designs. But, one wonders, what about the Pakistani people and their vital interests? Pakistan's true national interests require the defense of its sovereignty and independence against encroachments in whatever form.

The conclusion is obvious: Washington has started an unsavory game around Pakistan.

PONOMAREV VIEWS SIGNIFICANCE OF U.S. ORGANIZED MANEUVERS

LD271457 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Mar 80 p 3 LD

[Col M. Ponomarev "Military-Political Review": "According to the Formulas of Washington's Global Strategy"]

[Text] Never in recent years, and perhaps in the entire postwar period, has there been such a global "show of strength" as the imperialist states' militarist circles have now undertaken. Provocative maneuvers and exercises organized by them are taking place practically simultaneously in many regions of the globe, and even those reports on the maneuvers and exercises which reach the press make it possible to draw the conclusion that, for the most part, they are being carried out in accordance with an overall plan and are thus links in a single chain.

Yes, regardless of the composition of the participants, the quantities of forces and resources involved and the locality, the dominant role is played, as a rule, by the United States--its troops, ships and planes, its generals and admirals. If it is not the United States itself, it is the aggressive blocs created and operating under U.S. auspices, in which leading military posts belong to Pentagon representatives. It is sufficient to recall that the post of supreme commander of the North Atlantic bloc's Allied Armed Forces in Europe has been constantly held by an American general since the forces were created--at the moment it is Gen B. Rogers.

Another characteristic feature of the present militarist demonstrations by NATO and ANZUS countries and also Japan and other U.S. allies is the attempt to "show muscle" in many strategically important regions of the globe, separated by long distances, at the same time. These regions include northern Europe, the Caribbean, the Pacific, and the Far East. Then there are the American naval and air force operations in the Indian Ocean, particularly in the Persian Gulf region, where under the guise of maneuvers, major U.S. naval forces are being concentrated and B-52 strategic bombers are making flights.

It should also be noted that in most cases the operations rehearsed at the exercises and maneuvers, which are organized by American generals and admirals, are interventionist in nature and characteristic above all is the 'quick reaction corps.' This again confirms the idea that regardless of the composition of the participants and the locality, the militarist demonstrations are planned and coordinated, as a rule, in one center--the Pentagon.

Finally, and most important--the maneuvers and exercises by the armed forces of the United States and its allies are of a frankly aggressive, expansionist nature. Their organizers scarcely attempt to conceal the fact that they are rehearsing preparations for a war against the Soviet Union and the other socialist states and hostilities against peoples fighting for national independence and social progress and defending revolutionary gains. It all takes place under cover of false fabrications about the "Soviet military threat" and shouting about "national interests," while in practice it is dictated by the imperialist circles' hegemonist aspirations.

These conclusions emerge from an analysis of a number of specific military exercises organized and currently being held by the United States and its allies. Of course, each has its particular nature, its specific features, but on the whole quite a definite picture emerges.

Let us turn, for instance, to the "Rimpac-80" naval and air force exercises, which took place over 20 days in the central part of the Pacific and finished this week. More than 40 combat ships took part--aircraft carriers, nuclear powered guided missile cruisers, nuclear submarines--and about 200 aircraft, including strategic bombers, and 20,000 servicemen. The exercises were led by Vice Adm E. Waller, commander of the U.S. 3d fleet. In the course of the exercises they rehearsed collaboration between naval and air forces in large-scale operations at sea and inflicting strikes against "enemy" aircraft, ships and submarines using the most modern means of armed struggle.

It is the seventh time such exercises have been held, starting in 1971, but this time they had a number of significant features. Whereas formerly the armed forces of the ANZUS countries--the United States, Australia and New Zealand--and also Canada have taken part, this time Japanese ships and aircraft joined in for the first time. The country's constitution, which bans Japan from sending troops abroad, was thereby violated. It is well known that this constitutional provision has for a long time been a thorn in the side of Japanese militarist circles. Now, with U.S. assistance, it has been bypassed, which accords with Washington's desire to involve its partner in the so-called "security treaty" in the NATO and ANZUS system of military blocs. When this involvement becomes a fact, Washington wishes to move on to the next stage in the buildup of militarist preparations in the Pacific--to knock together a new military-political grouping there at the service of the American imperialist circles' strategic interests.

Incidentally, it must be observed that Washington's actions are meeting with a response among Japanese militarists. The "Rimpac-80" exercises were hardly over when K. Hosoda, chief of the Japanese Defense Agency, came out openly in support of the Pentagon's plan to involve the "Self-Defense Forces" in new joint maneuvers far from the Japanese islands--this time with U.S. ground forces. K. Hosoda described this plan as an important step on the path of further strengthening the two countries' military cooperation.

Whereas the "Rimpac-80" exercises have just finished, the big military maneuvers in South Korea, codenamed "Team Spirit," are to continue for another whole month. Apart from 100,000 servicemen of the Seoul regime, the 38,000-strong U.S. occupation corps in South Korea, units of American marines from Okinawa and Hawaii and also combat planes from U.S. bases in the Pacific and ships from the 7th fleet are taking part. In total about 150,000 American and South Korean servicemen are involved in the maneuvers.

The second stage of the "Team Spirit" maneuvers has just begun. The troops have embarked on practical rehearsals of a "possible aggression from the north" and the struggle against "enemy" landing forces, whose role is played by units of American marines. They are thereby being trained in landing on "enemy" territory and at the same time helping to kindle military hysteria in South Korea.

At the other extremity of the Eurasian land mass--in northern Europe and off its coast--the big NATO military demonstration codenamed "Anorak Express" is developing increasingly widely. [paragraph continues]

Taking part in these maneuvers are seven North Atlantic bloc countries--the United States, Britain, Norway, Italy, the Netherlands and Canada. In total nearly 25,000 servicemen from those countries and a large number of surface ships and submarines, planes and helicopters are involved in the action.

The attention which the bloc leadership and the Pentagon are devoting to these exercises is indicated by the fact that Gen B. Rogers and other high-ranking members of the Atlantic staffs are present. During the maneuvers they are rehearsing collaboration between armed forces from various North Atlantic bloc countries in the difficult natural conditions of the Arctic and the possibility of sending major reinforcements to the bloc's north flank by the "air bridge." One of the main aims of "Anorak Express" is also to rehearse actions by NATO's "Fire Brigade"--the bloc's mobile forces, which are commanded by an American again--Gen A. Weyand.

The Pentagon is using these maneuvers in order to test, in conditions "extremely close to combat conditions," the weapons and combat equipment destined, in particular, for the quick reaction corps. It was reported that within the context of maneuvers in northern Europe, American marines had tested, for the first time, their "ability to carry out intervention" backed up by the assault helicopter-carrier Saipan which has 50 heavy helicopters on board. Almost 2,000 marines and about 200 tanks, armed transporters and other motor vehicles were rapidly put ashore from this craft and other assault ships in northern Norway. The Western press described them as the "biggest" U.S. Marine action beyond the Arctic Circle.

At the same time, the ability to transfer troops and combat equipment over large distances was being tested in conditions quite different from those in the Arctic--this was the U.S. armed forces "Gallant Eagle-80" maneuvers in California's Mojave Desert. Gen V. Warner, the officer in command, told press representatives that the maneuvers were being held "in connection with the development of events in Iran and Afghanistan" since local conditions resemble those in the Near and Middle East and in the Persian Gulf area.

These have been some of the major maneuvers and exercises organized within the framework of U.S. global strategy. At the same time, the following maneuvers: "Black Fury-3" in the Caribbean basin and on the territory of Panama; "Safe Pass-80" in the western Atlantic; "Winter Eagle" in the Far East; "Spring Train" in the Gibraltar area and others have been carried out or are still in progress. Like those we have discussed above, they are all links in the aggressive U.S. global strategy and their purpose is to fetter Washington's allies even more firmly to the American policy of fueling international tension and interfering in sovereign states' internal affairs.

As an element in the practical implementation of the American administration's current course, the militarist actions of Washington and its allies graphically demonstrate the goal of the foreign policy "doctrine" preached across the ocean. In particular, its aim is to scare the Soviet Union, to scare the peoples and make them compliant in the face of U.S. imperialist circles' hegemonist aspirations.

In this connection, it is appropriate to quote from L. I. Brezhnev's speech to the voters of Moscow's Baumanskiy Electoral Okrug. "The Soviet Union," he said, "will not be intimidated by anyone, our strength and potential are enormous. We and our allies will always be able to stand up for ourselves and to rebuff any hostile assaults. We will be provoked by no one. To the 'doctrine' of war hysteria and the feverish arms race we counterpose the doctrine of consistent struggle for peace and security on earth."

These words express the thoughts and feelings of all Soviet people. To the imperialist powers' militarist demonstrations and aggressive intrigues they counterpose high vigilance and steadfast will to frustrate any intrigues by the enemies of peace and peoples' security.

VANCE SPEECH TO SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE CRITICIZED

LD292254 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1605 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Washington, 29 Mar, (TASS)--U.S. Secretary of State Vance has addressed the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in a lengthy statement covering a wide range of problems of the contemporary international situation. In particular, he touched upon an issue which causes concern among many Americans at present--the issue of the development of Soviet-American relations, trying to "justify" a whole series of unfriendly acts and steps with regard to the Soviet Union undertaken by Carter's administration.

In some circles of the American capital efforts are being made to spread the "version" that allegedly there exists a "difference" between the "sober" policy of the State Department and the line pursued by the President's Assistant for National Security Z. Brzezinski who is well-known for his pathological anti-Soviet feelings. However, the speech made by Secretary of State Vance showed clearly that he and his department unswervingly pursue the "tough" line of Carter and Brzezinski.

Vance asserted that allegedly it was not the aggressive stepping-up of U.S. military power in the area of the Persian Gulf but the events in Afghanistan that "underlined dramatically" "the threat to the security of the countries of that region"; he also called for a "hard attitude" to be adopted in dealing with the USSR.

Vance's statement resembled less a speech by the head of the foreign policy department, than intimations of the Pentagon generals. He emphasized the "necessity" for an all-round increase in U.S. military power. "Our defense potential," he declared, "must be second to none. Our strategic deterrents must bear an indisputable and convincing character. Our conventional armed forces must be sufficiently strong and sufficiently flexible." He boasted that the United States "has increased its military and naval presence" in the area of the Near and Middle East, and he raised the question of "obtaining access to additional naval and air targets in that part of the world."

The U.S. secretary of state persistently spoke about the ambitions of Washington to have the "capacity to demonstrate its might at long distances." He called for "measures to be taken to raise the mobility of our 'rapid deployment force,'" spoke in favor of "timely location of ships in various geographical areas and the creation of a new large military transport aircraft" with a view to "raising our capability to take swift measures in case of crises."

The U.S. secretary of state advocated an all-round development of U.S. strategic nuclear forces including the program for the production of the land-based MX mobile missiles, the underwater Trident missile systems and the air-to-air cruise missiles for equipping piloted bombers. "Our friends' trust in us and our political influence in the world," asserted Vance, "depend on our military power and our readiness to use it in an emergency."

In this connection after admitting the existence of "economic difficulties" in the United States, he demanded from American people, as well as from the U.S. allies in the West "sacrifices" for the sake of "increasing defense expenditures." "We must make these sacrifices now," said the secretary of state.

Regarding justification of this militarist policy with references to events in Afghanistan, their complete groundlessness is obvious from the very statement made by Vance. Thus calling upon his allies to follow the U.S. "example" in restricting trade with the USSR, he admitted that "changes proposed by us in the list of goods which should be covered by this control will remain valid once they are confirmed by the coordinating committe, because the necessity for bringing in these changes had been discussed even before the emergency situation in Afghanistan."

Thus he confirmed that J. Carter's administration, which contrary to the generally accepted international norms has been pursuing a virtually unprecedented stand in the world policy of unilateral repudiation of assumed obligations in line with numerous Soviet-American agreements, adopted the decision of turning toward such a dangerous policy course before the events in Afghanistan. Continuing to refer to these events in order to justify its dangerous policy Carter's administration engages in hoodwinking its own people, its allies and the public opinion of the whole world.

ZORIN VIEWS U.S. MEDIA'S 'LIES' ABOUT SOVIET ACTIVITIES

LD300912 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Valentin Zorin commentary in "Moscow Viewpoint" program]

[Text] This week I'd like to talk about some ways the American mass media are manipulating public opinion but first I'd like to propose a simple experiment: record the anti-Soviet sensations you have heard about in the American media recently and hang onto those notes for a few months. When you look them over again later, I am certain that those of you who believe what the American mass media say about the Soviet Union will have to give up your illusions. In the meantime, I'd like to recall some of the misinformation that is being presented of late by those who consistently want to discredit the Soviet Union in the eyes of Americans.

Last September, Americans were agitated about an alleged threat a small number of Soviet servicemen in Cuba supposedly presented to U.S. security. Washington politicians and media commentators were at the head of this scare campaign, but suddenly the campaign was ended. The facts just didn't confirm the charges and so the subject was dropped, although it undoubtedly left its mark on millions of Americans. The claim of a Soviet threat from Cuba was followed by charges of a new Soviet threat, only this time the Soviet Union was supposedly heading for the sea routes on which Middle East oil is carried to America. Well, it's easy to see why this absurd charge was made. American taxpayers would think twice and three times before putting out hundreds of millions of dollars to support actions thousands of miles from the American border. And so they have to be convinced that the Soviet Union's concern over protecting its southern borders and helping its neighbor, Afghanistan, fight aggression presents a threat to the United States. This is the basis for the lie about a Soviet military threat to oil resources in the Middle East and the oil export routes leading from the region.

The lie is not only spread by irresponsible journalists but also by Washington officials. Defense Secretary Brown has charged that the USSR is strongly tempted to get more deeply involved politically and militarily in order to gain control over the oil produced in the region. But none of these people explain why the Soviet Union would want to take such big risks to sieze foreign oil sources when there's plenty of its own oil to last many decades. The American people are just being fed this lie in hopes that they will gullibly accept anything they are told. I am certain that later, when you look back on the charges being made by politicians in Washington and the U.S. media, you'll see you were a victim of blatant deception. The Soviet Union has never had any plans to take over Mideast oil supplies, nor to block the searoutes by which oil is shipped to the United States.

A recent example of outright propaganda in the United States media had to do with Soviet plans for Iran. In February television news analysts claimed that Soviet troops were engaged in unusual maneuvers and mobilizing north of Iran's border.

The Washington POST commented that the maneuvers might very well be an attempt to put political pressure on Iran or preparations for intervention into Iran. For several days the American media harped on this subject and drummed up tension. That was nearly a month and a half ago, but there has been no factual confirmation of Soviet troop concentrations on the Iranian border. The whole story was concocted from beginning to end. The media, however, made no apologies to the American public: They didn't report that the charges made so loud and persistently were the figment of someone's imagination. Instead, the organizers of anti-Soviet propaganda dreamed up new charges, again with the intent of leaving some mark on public opinion even if the lie is not confirmed.

Among such charges was the recent report that the Soviet Army is using poisonous gas in Afghanistan. NEWSWEEK had a TASS news agency photo in one of its latest issues, a picture of a soldier in a gasmask standing near some weaponry. The caption indicates that the soldier is in Afghanistan near an arsenal of poisonous gas. It turned out, however, that the photo was taken in 1969 and not in 1980, and the soldier is not in Afghanistan but in the USSR. The original photo description says that the picture was taken of Soviet Army exercises simulating a chemical warfare attack.

Washington leaders and many American journalists are charging that the Soviet Union is preparing for bacteriological warfare and testing poisonous elements that are banned by international agreement. Once again a certain section of the American public is accepting this slander as truth. No one is demanding convincing proof without which it's immoral to charge the Soviet people of such gross violations of international law.

The thing is that there are no facts to back up the lie and the perpetrators of this recent anti-Soviet slander are well aware of that but they feel they can get away with it and so more and more often they are resorting to outrageous lies and provocations. I have no doubts that when this latest dose of propagandistic narcotics wears off the manipulators of American public opinion won't think of informing the public that the reports they made were not confirmed. Instead of apologies there will be more lies.

POLICIES AGGRAVATING INTERNATIONAL, DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

LD292330 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2014 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The line aimed at aggravating the international situation and whipping up the arms race which is being conducted by the present Washington administration is turning against the United States itself and (?involves) fresh deprivations for millions of Americans. The American taxpayer pays a high price for maintaining in the Indian Ocean a powerful naval armada drawn up towards the Persian Gulf. In this connection the administration in the near future intends to ask Congress for an additional increase in military spending of $5.2 billion. At the same time, as UPI has reported, the draft of a balanced budget of the United States of America for the 1981 fiscal year, which will be presented by the President at the start of next week, envisages considerable reduction in allocations for the needs of public health, social security and other socioeconomic programs. In particular, it is envisaged reducing the present payments to state employees and trimming the program of financial aid to students and to primary and secondary schools.

President Carter's ban on granting licenses for the sale of goods and technology which can be used at the Moscow Olympics to the Soviet Union, as the press in the United States points out, first and foremost hits American firms. About 60 companies have suffered from this decision. They plan to demand from the government the payment of compensation to the tune of $10 million.

The American Farm Bureau Federation has demanded that the White House revoke without delay the embargo on grain supplies to the Soviet Union. The government has not done anything to avert the drop in grain prices as a result of the embargo, said the federation president (Delano), and Carter assured Americans that he would protect the farmers from the great financial losses which they are sustaining in connection with the ban on grain supplies.

The steps of the U.S. administration aimed at curtailing scientific and cultural ties with the Soviet Union are the subject of sharp criticism in America. Many observers think that Carter is inflaming the anti-Soviet hysteria to divert the attention of his own people away from acute internal problems. After all the promises of 4 years ago to reduce unemployment, curb inflation and achieve greater social justice in the country have not been fulfilled. However, having embarked on the road of confrontation, Washington is not only aggravating the situation in the world but is also exacerbating its own internal problems.

WASHINGTON PUTS 'THREE-DIRECTIONAL' PRESSURE ON JAPAN

ID281335 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Mar 80 p 5 LD

[Vsevolod Ovchinnikov "Commentator's Column: "Complicated Tangle"]

[Text] Japanese Foreign Minister Okita has just visited Washington. The results of his visit have shown once again that the relations between the Pacific partners are a complicated web of military-political ties and trade and economic contradictions. As is evident from press reports, in these talks the United States pressured Japan in three directions at once. It sought to make Japan curb the flow of exports to the American market, substantially increase its military spending and, finally, follow the U.S. lead by jeopardizing its own relations with the USSR.

The American business world nostalgically recalls the times when the land of the rising sun was a downtrodden rival. Japan now produces almost as much steel as the United States, but does so using greatly improved methods and therefore almost 33 percent more cheaply. It has increased its motor vehicle production to 10 million per year, squeezing the United States into second place in the world. Half these vehicles are exported, about 2 million of them to the United States, since the U.S. metallurgical and motor vehicle industries are experiencing a recession, the Japanese competition is particularly painful.

In the United States irritated voices are to be heard saying that the reason Japan is gaining the upper hand is that it is "living at another's expense" in military matters. Japan is being reproached with the fact that its military spending is not even 1 percent of GNP; with the claim that it is time to get rid of the "nuclear allergy" and revise the policy of "not producing, not acquiring and not deploying" nuclear weapons in the country.

It is noteworthy that this time, besides the chronic sores of bilateral relations, Washington added the "Iranian and Afghan questions" to the talks' agenda. Japan has already had an opportunity to see for itself just how incompatible with its national interests U.S. calls for "allied solidarity" and in particular for participation in the economic blockade on Iran can be (taking into account its dependence on Iranian oil). Now, in connection with events in Afghanistan, there have been demands that Japan follow in the wake of Washington's anti-Soviet course--which threatens to undermine its mutually advantageous ties with the USSR.

Present-day reality has already repeatedly shown Japan the dangerousness and vulnerability of a one-sided political and economic orientation. A country dependent on international trade is interested in multilateral cooperation, not confrontation with its neighbors. But it is precisely onto the dangerous path of confrontation that American policy is pushing Japan.

BRITISH DEFENSE SECRETARY'S VISIT TO CHINA EXAMINED

LD281958 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Britain's Defense Secretary Francis Pym visited China this week. He had talks in Beijing with Vice Premier Wang Zhen, who is in charge of modernizing the Chinese Army. Also present were two deputy chiefs of the General Staff and others. There was also a meeting with Defence Minister Xu Xianqian and the new Chief of the General Staff, Yang Dezhi.

By arranging such a busy schedule for their guest, the Beijing officials probably wanted to stress how interested they are in military cooperation with one of the leading powers of NATO.

When Hua Guofeng was in London the Tories' leader, Mrs Thatcher, assured him that the government had agreed in principle to delivering military equipment to China. London promised Beijing credits to a sum of $5,000 million, including credits to purchase the Harrier fighter-bombers. It was reported at the time that the talks on selling and buying them will be continued. And that was the mission which Francis Pym took upon himself. Immediately on arriving in Beijing he said London was ready to take part in modernizing the Chinese Army. And at the final news conference the British defense secretary disclosed his government's intention to supply both defensive and offensive weapons.

The list of such arms is sufficiently big. According to the newsmen who accompanied Mr Pym, it includes tanks, naval ships and jet engines for combat planes. Beijing's request for the Harrier planes has also been taken into account. Specialists believe that China's General Staff pins special hopes on that plane. According to the American AVIATION WEEK, the multi-purpose fighter-bomber with a vertical take-off and landing, is best fit for operations on such territory as Asia, where there are not many airfields and landing-strips. It is noteworthy that none of the weapons on the list have ever been delivered by Britain or other NATO countries to Asia.

Many observers in Asia today ask whether the visit of Mr Pym to China is the proof that by supplying such military equipment London is pushing Beijing onto the road of expansion in the south. They also call attention to the fact that among the problems discussed by Pym, in Beijing, is the so-called Afghan problem and London is known to be involved in the undeclared war against Afghanistan. It is not accidental that the NATO Military Planning Committee, at its recent session in Brussels, stressed the great importance of providing military aid to Pakistan through China. It is quite obvious that NATO's arms deliveries to China will lead to the militarization of both China and its ally Pakistan, and that is against the interests of the security of the countries in the region.

REPORTAGE ON DPRK AMBASSADOR'S 25 MAR PRESS CONFERENCE

'Settlement of Reunification Difficult'

SK261239 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 25 Mar 80 SK

[Text] A press conference with Soviet reporters was held at the DPRK Embassy today. At the press conference, the DPRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Soviet Union, Comrade Kim Chae-pong, spoke about the current situation of Korea.

He said that Washington has been waging a provocative military mobile exercise in South Korea with the participation of the U.S. forces and South Korean Army units, thus heightening tension in this region. Ambassador Kim Chae-pong said that this exercise will make the settlement of the reunification question of the country more difficult.

'Fueling War Hysteria'

LD281551 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Mar 80 p 3 LD

[Unattributed report: "Press Conference at DPRK Embassy"]

[Text] A press conference was held 25 March at the DPRK Embassy in the USSR. Kim Chae-pong, DPRK ambassador to the USSR, who addressed the journalists, described the numerous provocations against the DPRK by the South Korean military and American imperialism, which supports them. In the last 3 months more than 3,500 blatant violations of the armistice agreement have been recorded. Ambassador Kim Chae-pong also expressed deep concern at the large-scale "Team Spirit-80" American-South Korean exercises currently taking place on South Korean territory with the participation of 100,000 servicemen from the Seoul regime and also the 38,000-strong U.S. expeditionary corps in South Korea, American marines from Okinawa, U.S. warplanes and ships of the 7th Fleet.

These provocative actions by the Seoul regime and the Pentagon, the ambassador declared, are helping to fuel war hysteria in South Korea and jeopardize peace and security on the Korean Peninsula.

JAPANESE-U.S. DEFENSE COOPERATION VIEWED

LD301041 Moscow TASS in English 1007 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tokyo, March 30, TASS--The Defence Departments of Japan and the United States are drawing up a plan of "joint technical operations" of the airforces of the two countries for the eventuality of the so-called "extraordinary circumstances".

This has been reported here at a press conference by Chief of Staff of the Japanese Air-force General R. Yamada. He said that "cooperation" between Japanese and American air-forces would specifically manifest itself in holding joint exercises, which, he said, "will become more frequent and their proportions and the area of operations will largely grow."

Such exercises were held on the Japanese territory 11 times from April last year to March this year. Involved in the exercises were about 450 combat planes from both sides. The next 7 day exercises will begin in the Aomori Prefecture on April 7.

"From battle exercises we are now coming over to testing largescale air operations," stressed Yamada. According to the press, involved in the exercises will be American strategic B-52 bombers and planes based on the U.S. Seventh Fleet. The Japan Defence Agency took the decision on systematic training of its pilots overseas.

"In the course of the exercises jointly with American aviation which has experience of conducting combat actions in Vietnam, said General Yamada, Japanese pilots enhance their military skills and morale." Adopting the Vietnamese "experience" of the Pentagon warriors, Japanese militarists show once again that their "cooperation" with the overseas military is by no means "defensive", as they in Tokyo and Washington are trying to present it.

GENERALS ATTEND MONGOLIAN ARMY DAY RECEPTION

LD290953 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Mar 80 p 3 LD

[Unattributed report: "Mongolian Embassy Reception"]

[Text] Maj Gen Ts. Sodnomdarjaa, military attache at the Mongolian Embassy in the Soviet Union, has held a reception to mark the 59th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Army. The reception was attended by Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Army General I.G. Pavlovskiy and Marshal of Signal Troops N.N. Alekseyev, USSR deputy defense ministers; and also Army General P.I. Batov, Army General V.A. Matrosov, marshals of categories of troops, generals, admirals and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces and representatives of the Soviet public.

B. Gotob, Mongolian ambassador to the Soviet Union, was present at the reception.

The guests included military, naval and air attaches at the embassies of a number of foreign states in the USSR.

AFGHANISTAN'S KARMAL CHAIRS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SESSION

LD310917 Moscow TASS in English 0909 GMT 21 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kabul, March 31, TASS--A meeting of the Council of Ministers in Kabul was devoted to matters of social and economic development of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. A report of the BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY circulated here says that the meeting, specifically, endorsed and submitted for the consideration of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan the law on taxation of commodity products, adopted the decisions on cutting the payments for the use of kindergartens, on the creation of state-owned mechanised farms in Afghanistan and some other decisions.

The Council of Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan also decreed to convene the first congress of teachers in Afghanistan's history. The congress will be held in Kabul from April 10 to April 12. The meeting of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan was presided over by Babrak Karmal, the general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

PRAGUE PAPER INTERVIEWS KESHTMAND ON SOVIET AID

LD300924 Moscow TASS in English 0603 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Prague, March 29, TASS--The internationalist assistance of the socialist countries and the solidarity of the international revolutionary movement is of exceedingly great importance and great value because it helps Afghanistan strengthen its international position, develop its economy and solve its social problems, Soltan 'Ali Kestmand, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, deputy chairman of the Revolutionary Council, deputy prime minister of the DRA, now in Czechoslovakia on a friendly visit, said in an interview with the newspaper RUDE PRAVO. Of special importance to us, he said, is the tremendous and all-round selfless fraternal assistance of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union's assistance gives us an opportunity of achieving progress in all branches of the national economy and speeding up its rates of development.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand then said that his talks with the leaders of Czechoslovakia took place in a cordial atmosphere and led up to the further development and deepening of friendly fraternal relations between the two countries. The two sides discussed questions of cooperation and exchanged opinions on problems of mutual interest. The talks showed a complete identity of views.

Speaking of the situation in the country, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said that the top priority task of the Government of Afghanistan and the PDPA was to normalize the situation in the country. During Amin's terroristic rule all the social system was disorganized. The people was deprived of rights and liberties and many died. Therefore we strove in the first place to restore human rights, to restore freedom to our people. The government of Babrak Karmal declared general amnesty and released thousands of progressive patriots from prisions. At present we (?are) trying to improve the living conditions of our people, to improve the supply situation, to restore factories, and economic planning. Measures are being taken to industrialize the country and to raise the living standards of the entire people.

Replying to a question about his own fate Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand told Rude Pravo about the tragic fate of the patriots who were put into prison by Amin's bloody regime. While in prison Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand himself experienced the cruelty of the hangmen of Amin's regime. He said that fifteen hundred of his comrades, members of the party, were brutally killed by Amin.

Our country, our people and army are now repelling attacks of American imperialism, the Chinese hegemonists and other foreign reactionary and counter-revolutionary forces. They want to destroy the achievements of our revolution. The aggressive policy of imperialism and reaction has created a real threat to the independence of our country. This threat was averted by the Soviet Union's timely military assistance. A limited contingent of Soviet troops was introduced into Afghanistan under its treaty with the Soviet Union after repeated requests from the Afghan Government. The Soviet Union is helping the Afghan people beat back aggression and does not interfere in any way in the internal and foreign affairs of our country. Our people are sincerely grateful for this assistance. We are convinced, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said in conclusion, that thanks to the correct foreign policy of our party and government, thanks to the principled internationalist support we have from the progressive forces, above all the Soviet Union and other socialist states, we shall be able to repulse the imperialist aggression and counter-revolution.

BARIALAY REJECTS WESTERN ACCOUNTS OF FEB KABUL RIOTS

LD311037 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 11 Mar 80 p 3 LD

[APN correspondent Andrey Pravov interview with Mahmud Barialay, chief of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee International Department and member of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Revolutionary Council: "Afghanistan: Who is Directing the Counterrevolutionaries--first paragraph is TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA introduction]

[Text] Looted and burned stores, the skeletons of automobiles still smoking, a thick layer of broken windowpanes on the sidewalks, the mutilated bodies of children with women groaning over them.... These photographs were taken on the streets of Kabul on 22 February this year. They are displayed by Mahmud Barialay, chief of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee International Department and member of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Revolutionary Council.

M. Barialay: These photographs are graphic proof of the antipopular nature of the counterrevolutionary gangs who call themselves "the orthodox defenders of Islam." As a result of the riots they caused on 22-23 February in Kabul, dozens of civilians were killed, damage was caused to residential buildings, and the stores of many small merchants were looted. They were aiming at creating the semblance of "broad dissatisfaction among the people's masses at the authorities' policy." But they merely caused the population--who saw with their own eyes their criminal methods of struggle--to rise up against them even more. Ordinary people helped the militia and party activitists to render the bandits harmless.

We have many proofs of the involvement of foreign reactionary forces in the crimes committed in Kabul at the time. Over 200 guns were seized, as was an enormous number of hand grenades, explosive devices and ammunition. All these weapons were of U.S., Chinese and British manufacture. The arrested bandit ringleaders included foreign subjects and CIA agents....

APN: The West is now asserting that Soviet soldiers also took part in breaking up the bandits' demonstrations. Please comment on this information.

M. Barialay: This is misinformation and propagandist lies. It is pursuing a definite goal--attempting to prove that Soviet troops are billeted in Kabul and shedding the blood of "Afghan patriots." As a rule the reports by Western correspondents on the events in Afghanistan are, in general, lies. For instance, I was killed on the street on 22 February if one of these reports is to be believed.

I state most responsibly that not a single Soviet soldier took part in dispersing the bandits. Moreover, we did not even enlist our own servicemen to take part in this dispersal. Only the militia forces, party activists and civilian volunteers were used to suppress the counterrevolutionary demonstrations. The Soviet servicemen are protecting our border against outside intervention. We have adequate forces of our own to suppress the internal counterrevolution because the people's masses are behind us.

I stress once again that the limited contingent of Soviet troops was introduced to our country under the Soviet-Afghan treaty of friendship, good neighborliness and cooperation not for any "punitive purposes" against the Afghans as the West is now trying to present the matter, but exclusively to halt outside interference, to block the movement from Pakistani territory of armed gangs trained by U.S. and Chinese instructors.

As you know, in January the United States set a "deadline" for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan by 20 February. In the event of "noncompliance" it threatened to use various "sanctions." One of these involved the recent events in Kabul which began immediately after the expiry of the "deadline." We know that disturbances may begin again at any moment. They are being provoked by the Washington and Beijing agents who are being sent in their thousands to Afghanistan from Pakistani territory. With our feudalists and other counterrevolutionaries they are organizing armed detachments, attacking population centers, killing people and buring houses.

APN: According to the Western version these "patriots" are now combating "Soviet aggression." What, in your view, lies behind this distortion of the true state of affairs in Afghanistan?

M. Barialay: Everyone can understand that the revolution in Afghanistan did not begin on 27 December 1979 and was not "imported on Soviet bayonets" as the West is now trying to maintain. It was accomplished in April 1978 and was the result of the struggle of true patriots against the forces of feudalism and reaction. The revolution wrecked the plans of the West and Beijing eager to create in Afghanistan one more hotbed of tension on the USSR's borders.

With Hafizollah Amin's ascent to power the reaction again had a hope of implementing these plans. Amin's repressive policy frightened people away from revolution, pushed them into the camp of the counterrevolutionaries. The benighted, ignorant peasants were instilled with the idea that repressions are the only methods of rule for the communists. The traitor Amin stoked the people's dissatisfaction by every means--he encouraged the murder of the priests respected by the peasants and, counter to all laws of national and revolutionary development, ordered that the agrarian reform be ended "immediately." [paragraph continues]

The struggle against the red banner was camouflaged with a red banner. CIA agent Amin painstakingly prepared the "explosion of the people's dissatisfaction with the communist dictatorship." His removal from power averted a counterrevolutionary coup and the introduction of Soviet troops halted outside interference.

It was then that Washington and Beijing called for the support of "the orthodox defenders of Islam struggling against the Soviet aggressors" in Afghanistan.

APN: What is the real meaning of all these slogans of "the defense of the Muslims," "rallying under the banner of Islam" and so forth disseminated by bourgeois propaganda?

M. Barialay: We are not living in the 17th century and the April revolution is based on class principles, not on hostility between the Muslims and the "infidels." To put the events in Afghanistan on a religious footing means deliberately distorting the facts. The people of Afghanistan have overthrown the ruling class of the bourgeoisie and feudalists. This is the result of the social development of society.

I also want to ask on what grounds the United States assumes the role of defender of "orthodox Muslims?" Was it not U.S. weapons which opened fire last year on the anti-shah demonstrations in Islamic Iran? Was it not U.S. aircraft handed over to Israel which bombed the Muslim mosques in the Arab countries? Is it not the United States we have to thank for the shameful Camp David deal aimed against the Palestinian Muslims? On 22 and 23 February the Muslims' blood was shed by bandits armed with U.S. weapons on the streets of Kabul.

In Afghanistan now there are few people who can be deceived by arguments about "the ideas of communism which have no roots in Islamic soil." It is clear to everyone that this is only a propaganda trick whose aim is to overthrow the lawful government in Afghanistan and bring to power in Kabul the U.S. puppets who would raise on the USSR's borders "the sacred Islamic banner of struggle against world communism."

AFGHAN MINISTER GOLABZOY SCORES WESTERN PROPAGANDA 'LIES'

LD291852 Moscow TASS in English 1750 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kabul, March 29, TASS--TASS correspondent Sergey Solovev reports: Official spokesmen of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan deny as blatant lies all kind of insinuations and fabrications circulated by Western propaganda organs concerning the situation in Afghanistan.

Reports similar to that of the FRANCE PRESSE latest dispatch about "unrest" which allegedly took place in Kabul on March 28 pursue provocative aims, Mohammad Golabzoy, minister of the interior of the DRV, said at a meeting with pressmen. The writers of such stories, which are also circulated by REUTER and the American news agencies UPI and AP, would like to disturb the peaceful life of the Afghan capital. They seek to arouse hostility among the population toward representatives of people's power and the Soviet soldiers who have arrived in the DRA at the request of the Afghan people with a humanitarian mission in order to repel the external threat hanging over Afghanistan.

In this connection, the minister said, I would also like to mention the FRANCE PRESSE report of March 26, another news "canard." This agency alleges that toxic gases and napalm were used against bandit formations in Konarha Province during the latest operations against them. We have officially denied this lie several times but imperialist propaganda continues to cling to it. The provocateurs must be hard pressed, indeed, to resort to such lies.

TASS correspondents contacted today by telephone the cities of Gazni and Qandahar where, according to the selfsame FRANCE PRESSE, "disturbances" took place on the night of March 27-28 and where shopkeepers are allegedly "on strike" and all bazaars are closed. All this is sheer nonsense, a spokesman of the Qonarha local authorities said. Come over and see it for yourselves. We got a similar reply from Gazni.

The situation in the Afghan capital today remains quiet, just as it was on March 28. Kabul is living a normal life.

PARTY MEMBER TAHZIB CONDEMNS ANTI-SOVIET HYSTERIA

LD291959 Moscow TASS in English 1810 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Delhi, March 29, TASS--TASS correspondent Boris Chekhonin reports: The anti-Soviet hysteria which is now being drummed up by the USA, Egypt, Pakistan and China in connection with the events in Afghanistan pursue only one aim: to divert the attention of the international public from the buildup of U.S. naval presence in the Indian Ocean, from imperialism's and Moaism's conspiracy against Arab peoples, against the Afghan people's struggle for independence in defence of the cause of the revolution from encroachments on it on the part of Washington, Islamabad, and Beijing.

This was stated at a press conference today by N. Tahzib, member of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, who led the Afghan delegation to the International Conference for Peace and Security in Asia. The conference took place here.

"Where were these 'protectors' of the Afghan people when the Hafizollah Amin regime was destroying thousands of innocent people, razing their houses to the ground?" He said: Our party overthrew the Amin regime and requested the Soviet Union to render assistance to the Afghan people in the struggle against the armed bands of mercenaries that are infiltrated into the country from Pakistan and China. We asked the Soviet Union to help us uphold our freedom, independence and territorial integrity, and we have been given a positive reply, N. Tahzib stated.

Soviet assistance was given to the DRA, he specially pointed out, in accordance with the Soviet-Afghan treaty of friendship, goodneighbourliness and cooperation.

N. Tahzib spoke further of an extensive program of democratic and socio-economic transformations which is being implemented by the government of Babrak Karmal. The aim of the program, he said, is to considerably raise the living standard of the people of our country.

We are full of determination to rout the forces of counter-revolution and bands of infiltrated mercenaries and to uphold the country's independence and territorial integrity, N. Tahzib pointed out in conclusion.

AFGHAN NEUTRALIZATION PLAN SEEN AS 'TRANSPARENT VENTURE'

ID281219 Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 13, 21-27 Mar 80 p 1 ID

[Editorial: "With Concern for People's Destiny"]

[Excerpt] Support for Just Cause

The circles which determine U.S. foreign policy and those who play into their hands in fueling international tension use the events in Afghanistan as a pretext. But they use the crocodile tears over the "fate" of the Afghan people as camouflage for their flagrant interference in this country's affairs and their attempts to undermine the gains of the April revolution and overthrow the lawful government. But the Afghan people are not alone in their struggle against foreign aggression and internal counter-revolution organized by U.S. imperialist circles, the Chinese hegemonists and their minions from among the world reaction. "On behalf of the Soviet leadership and L.I. Brezhnev personally, I want to assure you, Comrade Dost, and through you the entire leadership of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] that they can continue to count on the Soviet Union's all-round aid and support," A.A. Gromyko said at the luncheon in honor of S.M. Dost, member of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan leadership and DRA foreign minister, who was in Moscow on 13-14 March on a friendly visit.

The firm and principled position of the USSR and the DRA supported by the world's progressive forces and the specific measures to repel the intrigues of foreign and internal reaction serve as a guarantee that the April revolution will triumph. Recently, when it became obvious that reaction's calculations with respect to Afghanistan were failing, NATO circles advanced a plan for that country's "neutralization." Its essence is to impose on the Afghan people a regime convenient to Washington and Beijing. However, this is a transparent venture. It has been rejected by the Afghan people. We can only welcome the fact that some people in the West have begun to speak of the quest for a political solution to questions concerning Afghanistan. But it should be clear here that attempts to decide the Afghan people's affairs behind their backs, jeopardize their sovereignty, disregard the lawful government and continue outside interference in their internal affairs will have no success. However, it looks as though Washington and Beijing have so far failed to understand this fact. Furthermore, the U.S. imperialists and Chinese hegemonists are coordinating their actions with respect to Afghanistan increasingly extensively. This is proved yet again by the current visit to Washington by PRC Vice Foreign Minister Zhang Wenjin. The State Department said outright that during the visit attention is being focused on the elaboration of "parallel steps which Washington and Beijing could take to strengthen Pakistan and oppose Soviet policy in southwest Asia." Thus Washington and Beijing are setting against the peace-loving forces' attempts to ease tension in this region their frantic efforts to mobilize reactionary forces aimed formally against Afghanistan but in fact against all countries of this region, including India, Iran and other independent states.

But neither the imperialists nor their accomplices--the Beijing leaders--can alter the course of history and halt the struggle of the peoples defending their freedom.

The peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America see the Soviet Union as their natural and true ally. It is profoundly symbolic that at a time when Washington is stepping up its interference in the affairs of independent states--be it Afghanistan, Iran or El Salvador--Soviet people are warmly welcoming representatives of the courageous Nicaraguan people who have overthrown the dictatorship of the U.S. henchman Somoza. In welcoming the government and party delegation from the Republic of Nicaragua they are voicing the conviction that its visit will serve the cause of strengthening friendship and fruitful cooperation among the peoples of the USSR and Nicaragua and the interests of the struggle for peace and social progress.

PUBLIC PROTESTS IN AFGHANISTAN OVER 'INTERFERENCE' NOTED

LD281330 Moscow TASS in English 1254 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kabul, March 28, TASS--TASS correspondent Leonid Biryukov reports: In the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA) there is a mounting wave of protest against interference by the forces of imperialism and reaction in the internal affairs of this free and independent country. At meetings which are taking place in various provinces of the country, working people wrathfully condemn the mercenaries of the USA, China, Egypt, Israel, and Pakistan. "The workers of the nitrogen fertilizer plant in Mazar-e Sharif, one of Afghanistan's biggest industrial enterprises, demanded that Pakistan not provide its territory for the training of bandits and saboteurs, that it eliminate all the bases where U.S., Chinese, and Pakistani instructors train counterrevolutionary elements in methods of killing and sabotage," G.D. Panjshiri, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, who recently returned after a tour of the DRA's northern and northwestern provinces, said in an interview with the TASS correspondent.

G.D. Panjshiri emphasized that workers, peasants, intellectuals, and clergy everywhere support the Government of the DRA and welcome the beginning of the new state of the April revolution.

He said that not a single industrial enterprise, for example, the cement plant in Herat, and a thermal power station in Mazar-e Sharif stopped their production even for a day. Workers not only do their work but also guard their factories and industrial plants against saboteurs.

Afghan peasants of the northern and northwestern provinces which he visited started the springtime cereal sowing campaign everywhere in an organized way. In Balkh Province for example, field work has been practically completed. Peasants expect to obtain a good crop since selection seeds have been sowed and a sufficient amount of fertilizers has been applied. They purchased the fertilizers from the state at easy prices.

A machinery-and-tractor station which has available up-to-date tractors which are successfully used at peasant fields, has been set up in the country's north. "I did not meet a single person who would not stigmatise with wrath and anguish imperialism's mercenaries that hinder us in building a new Afghanistan, in growing grain, in peacefully working at factories and in studying at schools", G.D. Panjshiri said in conclusion.

Mass Meetings of Support

LD300920 Moscow TASS in English 0851 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kabul, March 30, TASS--Thousands of workers, employees, public, clergymen took part in meetings in support of the revolutionary Government of Afghanistan, which are held throughout the country. The meetings were held in the Paktia, Parwan, Ghowr, Qandahar, Baghlan provinces. Expressed in the course of the mass manifestations was the devotion of the population to the ideals of the April revolution, full support for the efforts of the leadership of Democratic Afghanistan in establishing a broad national front for giving a rebuff to designs of imperialism and reaction against freedom and independence of Afghanistan. The participants in the demonstrations highly appraised the friendly aid being given by the Soviet Union to the Afghan people.

SOVIET ASSISTANCE TO AFGHAN COTTON FARMERS REPORTED

LD290844 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0500 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] In Afghanistan a commission set up under the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform has drawn up a number of measures to provide assistance to the producers of one of the country's most important crops--cotton. The planned measures include the selection, grading and laboratory research of cotton seeds, and the establishment of groups to distribute and deliver seeds to the peasants. The Soviet Union has come to the assistance of the Afghan cotton farmers by making a gratis allocation of 2,000 tons of cotton seeds of improved varieties this year.

'CIA AGENT LEE' APPEARS ON AFGHAN TELEVISION

LD281430 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The CIA agent Robert Lee, an American citizen, has been shown on Afghan television. He was arrested by the Afghan authorities during the recent disturbances in Kabul. Robert Lee admitted that the mercenaries and gunmen who crossed into Afghanistan are trained by American and Chinese instructors. The weapons they use are of American or Chinese make. Robert Lee said he was ashamed for the Western powers' actions in Afghanistan.

PAKISTAN OPENS FIRE ON INDIAN BORDER POSTS

LD310624 Moscow TASS in English 0617 GMT 31 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Delhi, March 31, TASS--An official report circulated here today says that on Friday Pakistani military units opened again unprovoked fire on the positions of Indian frontier guards in the sector of Punch-Mendhar (the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir). The Indian frontier guards had to open return fire. The exchange of fire lasted for about two hours. This is the second armed provocation by Pakistan within the past week.

COMMENTARY VIEWS PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

LD310928 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1500 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Viktor (Boykov) commentary]

[Text] The French newspaper NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR has carried a report that there are strong indications that Pakistan is about to gain access to nuclear arms.

Nuclear research in Pakistan got underway 25 years ago. At the beginning of the seventies the Pakistani leadership decided to apply the experience in nuclear research and nuclear power equipment to development of nuclear arms. In 1976 the French Government agreed to sell Pakistan a plant for processing nuclear fuel. This decision was motivated by commercial considerations. At the time Pakistan insisted that it needed this plant for the peaceful application of nuclear research. But experts in various countries expressed strong doubts about that statement since the operation of the plant could only be economically justified in a country that has a ramified network of atomic power stations, whereas Pakistan had only one such station.

Another reason for concern was Pakistan's refusal to join the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Arms. In 1978 the British Labor MP Frank Allaun said that high frequency inverters produced by the company Emerson Electrical Controls were sold to Pakistan. That report, too, caused concern because inverters of this type are used in gas centrifuges that are part of any uranium enrichment facility. Highly enriched uranium is, as you may know, needed for the production of nuclear arms. The Pakistani Government dismissed all suggestions of this kind and explained that it had purchased the centrifuges for a textile factory. However, it did not explain why all the arrangements concerning the purchase of the centrifuges had been made in secret. It turned out that the deal had been arranged through the British company (Waregate), the controlling interests of which belong to Mr and Mrs (Abdus Salam), who come from Pakistan.

Other Western companies, too, offered their services to Islamabad. The (Sol) Corporation's subsidiaries in Switzerland, Holland, West Germany, France and the United States assisted Pakistan in buying components for the gas centrifuge. An analysis of Pakistan's imports for the past few years leaves no room for doubt that the country has bought all the equipment necessary for setting up a uranium enrichment plant.

China has also been helping Pakistan to get nuclear technology. Some reports indicate that Beijing has been assisting nuclear research in Pakistan for the past 12 years. The British newspaper DAILY TELEGRAPH says that Chinese experts have been frequently visiting nuclear facilities in Pakistan, including the plant near Rawalpindi. There are strong indications that China supplied Pakistan with a part of the nuclear enrichment equipment that Islamabad had failed to buy on the Western market. When reports about intensive research into nuclear arms underway in Pakistan leaked to the press, the West hastily dissociated itself from Pakistan's nuclear plans.

Last year, in the spring, Washington announced the suspension of military aid to Pakistan but it changed its mind when Pakistan became a springboard for the subversive activity against Afghanistan of Afghan counterevolutionaries supported by the reactionary forces in the West. The regional interests of the United States got the upper hand over the global danger of the proliferation of nuclear arms. According to the British newspaper SUNDAY TIMES, all this means that the West and China have given Pakistan a go-ahead as far as nuclear arms are concerned.

PRAVDA REPORTS EXCHANGE OF USSR-SRI LANKA OFFICIAL GREETINGS

Brezhnev Message

LD291525 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Mar 80 p 2 LD

[TASS report: "Cordial Congratulations"]

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has sent a cable to President J.B. Jayewardene of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka in which, on behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and himself personally he conveyed cordial congratulations and best wishes to the friendly Sri Lankan people on the occasion of the national holiday--the 32d anniversary.

In a reply cable J.R. Jayewardene expressed sincere gratitude on behalf of the people and government of Sri Lanka, for the congratulations and for his own part conveyed best wishes to L.I. Brezhnev and also wishes for progress and prosperity to the friendly Soviet people.

The cables expressed confidence that friendly relations and mutually beneficial cooperation between the Soviet Union and Sri Lanka will continue to strengthen and develop for a good of the peoples of both countries in the interests of strengthening peace and international security.

CPSU Message

LD280945 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Mar 80 p 1 LD

[Text] To the 11th Congress of the Sri Lanka Communist Party [SLCP[.

Dear comrades:

The CPSU Central Committee sends cordial greetings to the delegates of the 11th Congress of the fraternal SLCP and through them all Sri Lanka communists and wishes the congress successful work.

Throughout its almost 40 years of activity the SLCP has been fighting tirelessly against imperialism and neocolonialism and for the vital interests of the Sri Lanka working people. This struggle has won the SLCP the respect of Sri Lanka's progressive and democratic forces and the broad strata of the Sri Lanka people.

Your congress is taking place in the conditions of a deteriorating international situation caused by the desire of imperialist circles, headed by the United States, to undermine the detente process, revive the "cold war" times and impose their will on other countries. The U.S. ruling circles are making particular efforts to suppress the peoples' struggle for national and social liberation and to increase their expansion in Asia and the Near and Middle East.

Sri Lanka communists resolutely expose the intrigues of imperialism and are waging a consistent struggle to insure peace and security in Asia and make the Indian Ocean a zone of peace.

Communists in the Soviet Union value highly the close fraternal relations which have become established between the CPSU and the SLCP and the Sri Lanka communists' struggle for the unity of the international communist movement on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

We wish you, dear comrades, great successes in the struggle for the Sri Lanka working people's vital interests, for strengthening the party's ties with the masses and for peace, democracy and social progress.

Long live the SLCP!

Long live the friendship between the Soviet and Sri Lanka peoples!

Long live Marxism-Leninism!

[Signed] The CPSU Central Committee

JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED ON 'ARAFAT VISIT TO INDIA

LD301726 Moscow TASS in English 1545 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Delhi, March 30, TASS--A joint statement on the results of the official three-day visit of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, to India was issued here.

Yasir 'Arafat's talks with Indira Gandhi, the prime minister of India, were held in an extremely cordial and friendly atmosphere, the statement says. Indira Gandhi again reaffirmed India's principled stand, pointing out that a just peace and a comprehensive solut on to the Middle East problem are possible only provided the Palestine Liberation Organisation participates as an equal representative in all the talks on a solution to the problem. Such a solution must be based on full withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied Arab and Palestinian lands, including Jerusalem, to enable the people of Palestine to return to their homeland, to achieve self-determination and to create an independent state in Palestine.

In this connection, the document points out further, the sides are emphasising the importance of the resolutions on the Middle East, adopted at the sixth nonaligned summit conference in Havana. The sides condemned Israel's position of disregard for the U.N. resolutions, as well as its aggressive expansionist policy in the occupied lands of southern Lebanon, the setting up of Israeli settlements, and the exploitation of natural resources in the occupied territories.

Yasir 'Arafat expressed a deep satisfaction with the role which India has played in support for the cause of the Arab people and the Palestinians' struggle in the course of the past three decades.

He gave a high appraisal of Indian's role in the struggle against colonialism, imperialism, racism in all its forms as well as of the positive contribution by India's Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to the movement of nonalignment, the statement stresses.

The sides expressed satisfaction with the development of India-Palestinian and Indian-Arab cooperation, emphasising that there are necessary conditions for a further expansion of such cooperation in various fields.

The statement points out that Yasir 'Arafat thanked Indira Gandhi for the invitation to visit India and for the granting of the diplomatic status to the PLO Mission in Delhi.

VIETNAMESE PRESIDENT TON DUC THANG DIES IN HANOI

LD301458 Moscow TASS in English 1450 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

["Death of Ton Duc Thang"--TASS headline]

[Text] Hanoi, March 30, TASS--The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the Standing Committee of the National Assembly and the Government of the SRV, the Central Committee of the Presidium of the fatherland front of Vietnam with profound regret announce the death of Ton Duc Thang, president of the SRV in Hanoi today at the age of 91. Ton Duc Thang was an outstanding patriot, a staunch communist, the leader of the working-class and peasantry of Vietnam, a close friend-in-arms and associate of Ho Chi Minh, an active figure of the international communist and working class movement, the report says, he devoted all his energies to the cause of national emancipation and unity of the country, the building of socialism, and defence of Vietnam.

KAMPUCHEAN TRADE UNION OFFICIAL HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

LD281946 Moscow TASS in English 1525 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 28, TASS--Speaking at a press conference today in Moscow, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Federation of Trade Unions for National Salvation of Kampuchea Meas Samnang said that the Soviet people's assistance that has no strings attached is of great importance for Kampuchea. "Relying on this assistance, on the support of countries of the world socialist system, of all progressive forces, we shall succeed in building a peaceful, independent and neutral, nonaligned Kampuchea taking the road to socialism," he said. The successes of People's Kampuchea are a contribution to the cause of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and all over the world, Meas Samnang said.

The press conference was devoted to the results of the visit of trade union activists of the People's Republic of Kampuchea to the Soviet Union. Besides Moscow, the guests from the friendly country visited Leningrad.

Meas Samnang spoke with bitterness and anger about three odd years of the rule of the clique of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary during which Kampuchea "had been turned into a slave-owning society of a new type, the society in which people underwent horrible suffering." "The genocide regime," he said, "left grim legacy. The efforts and achievements of the Kampuchean people are seen clearly against this background." Trying to normalise life in the country, the revolutionary authorities are promoting in every way the return of the population to ordinary work, are supplying it with food and medicines, with necessities. Implements, seeds and fertilizers received from friendly countries are distributed among peasants. Trade unions give great assistance to the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea in normalizing life in the country, Meas Samnang said.

HENG SAMRIN RECEIVES FIRYUBIN IN PHNOM PENH

LD271545 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 27 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Heng Samrin, chairman of the Central Committee of the Kampuchea National United Front for National Salvation and chairman of the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea, received Firyubin, deputy foreign minister of the USSR, who is in Phnom Penh at the invitation of the republic's leadership. In the course of a warm, friendly conversation, questions of mutual interest were discussed.

KADAR'S CONGRESS COMMENTS ON FOREIGN POLICY REPORTED

LD281115 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Mar 80 pp 3-4 LD

[TASS report: "Comrade Janos Kadar's Report"]

[Excerpts] Budapest, 24 March--Comrade J. Kadar, first secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, delivered the MSZMP Central Committee report at the 12th MSZMP Comgress, which opened here today.

In the period under review the party and government implemented the foreign policy course outlined by the 11th party congress. Defending the interests of our country and people and following the principles of proletarian internationalism and peaceful coexistence, the party sought to promote the consolidation of peace, the deepening of detente and the growth of the forces of socialism, national independence and social progress.

Hungary's representatives carry out wide and energetic activity in international organizations. Our country maintains diplomatic relations with 125 countries.

We attach special importance to our ties with the socialist states. The socialist community countries have achieved considerable successes in building the new society. Their international cohesion and joint actions are a crucial factor in the struggle for peace and social progress, which has developed on a wide scale.

In the period under review our ties with the socialist countries have developed favorably and we will continue to make every effort to further strengthen the socialist states' unity and political, economic, cultural and ideological cooperation.

The Central Committee takes great satisfaction in reporting to the congress that our international unity with the world's first socialist state, the main bastion of mankind's progress, our liberator--the Soviet Union--has continued to strengthen in the past years. The multifaceted ties between our countries are developing dynamically and the inviolable friendship between our peoples is becoming still stronger.

This was excellently borne out throughout last year's visit to Hungary by the Soviet party-government delegation. We are glad we had the opportunity once again to welcome to Hungary Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, our true friend and an outstanding figure for peace and progress. The firm foundation of Hungarian-Soviet friendship is provided by the commonality of our ideas, socialist aims and basic interests. The further development of multifaceted ties and cooperation between the two countries accords with our national interests.

The fraternal Vietnamese people's victory and the formation of the United Socialist Republic of Vietnam was an event of historic importance. The successful struggle of Indochina's peoples created a new situation in Southeast Asia. The path of independence development and national upsurge also opened up before the peoples of Kampuchea and Laos.

National liberation, democratic and revolutionary movements have achieved great successes. In Africa, Angola and Mozambique gained their independence. Ethiopia is making successful headway. Zimbabwe's patriots recently won a significant victory after many years of struggle. In Latin America the struggle by democratic, revolutionary forces against fascist distatorships has revived. Nicaragua's people were victorious. Imperialism lost an important ally in the Middle East with the collapse of the Iranian monarchy. The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen has defended its independence. The Afghan people's revolutionary forces are waging a selfless struggle, defending their country's national independence against counterrevolutionaries egged on and supported by the imperialists.

Hungary regards the nonalined movement as an important factor in international life. The Havana conference of nonalined countries' heads of state and government reaffirmed the movement's anti-imperialist principles. Its decisions were an important contribution to the defense of peace, national independence and social progress. We support the developing countries' struggle to consolidate their national independence and their desire that the system of international economic relations should create fairer conditions than hitherto for all countries' development.

Recently, the speaker went on to note, the international situation has deteriorated and the terminology of cold war times has again become current. In connection with events in Afghanistan reactionary circles have mounted a general anti-Soviet, anticommunist propaganda campaign directed against the socialist countries. They are opposing detente. The same aims are also served by their opposition to the Moscow Olympics.

As for Afghanistan, everyone knows that, on the basis of a valid treaty between the two countries, the legitimate Afghan Government asked the Soviet Union to give it military assistance in the face of an external threat. The Soviet Union, in accordance with the norms of international law, gave this assistance.

The USSR has clearly expressed its readiness to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan as soon as the factors that prompted Afghanistan to request the assistance and the Soviet Union to give it are eliminated.

The international situation should be assessed realistically, taking into account the facts and factors that actually determine it. The culprits behind the present international tension are in point of fact various imperialist forces interested in armament and opposing peace and social progress. Immediately after the Helsinki conference they stepped up their offensive against detente.

These imperialist circles would like to disrupt the equilibrium that exists between the two world systems at the present moment. They are seeking military superiority. This is shown by NATO's decision to deploy new American medium-range missiles in certain West European countries. Tension is also being increased by the new attempts aimed at further expanding and strengthening the imperialist military presence in various regions of the globe. All this means a serious threat to peace not only in Europe but also throughout the world and is having an impact on the continued shaping of detente.

International tension is also increased by the Chinese leaders' foreign policy course. Pursuing a nationalist, hegemonist policy and disregarding the Chinese people's true interests, they are openly cooperating with extremist aggressive circles of international imperialism.

Our people resolutely condemned the Chinese aggression against Socialist Vietnam, which was seriously detrimental not just to the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples, but to the general interests of socialism.

The imperialist circles that are seeking to bring about a deterioration in the international situation and a new wave of the arms race are mistaken in their calculations when they plan to achieve military superiority and regain their lost positions. History teaches that peoples who have liberated themselves from imperialism's yoke and capitalist exploitation defend their gains. The Soviet Union and the socialist countries want peace. That is why they will take all the requisite steps to defend their freedom, independence and socialist gains and to implement their plans for peaceful building.

Assessing the international situation, J. Kadar noted, our party and government believe that cohesion and energetic action by progressive and peace-loving forces will be able to defend detente and prevent the development of another arms race and the unleashing of another world war. Progressive, democratic, peace-loving forces are immense, are continuing to grow and are capable of repelling all reaction's intrigues. Mankind hopes that long-standing and durable peace is going to come on earth.

At the present time every country and people is interested in insuring that governments act responsibly and promote the reduction of tension, peaceful coexistence between countries with different social systems, the consolidation of security and the preservation of peace.

Along with its allies--the USSR and the other Warsaw Pact states--Hungary is an advocate of political solutions to disputed international problems. It supports proposals aimed at stopping the arms race and insuring equal security at a lower level of armament.

We are prepared to do anything to bring us closer to the great aim of universal disarmament. For 25 years now the Warsaw Pact, within whose framework Hungary worthily fulfills its commitments, has been honorably insuring defense tasks for 25 years now. The Warsaw Pact does not seek military superiority and does not wish to foist its will on the other side; it expects, as it is fully entitled to, a similar attitude from the opposing forces.

Hungary honestly fulfills the Helsinki conference's recommendations. We believe that constructive preparations must be made for the planned meeting in Madrid. We advocate convening in the near future a European conference to discuss confidence-building measures and bar the way to cold war. We believe that the Soviet-American SALT II treaty should be ratified as swiftly as possible and that the implementation of NATO's decision to deploy new American medium-range nuclear missile weapons in West European countries should be postponed. That is the only way of creating real conditions for further talks on arms reduction.

We display solidarity with the peoples building socialism and with all the world's progressive forces. This finds expression in the MSZMP's international activity and in our government's everyday foreign policy activity.

Hungary desires close cooperation with the socialist states and friendly relations with the developing and nonalined countries. On the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence, equality and noninterference in one another's internal affairs we have established political, economic and cultural relations with developed capitalist countries that accord with mutual interests.

Each country has its own specific interests. However, there are interests that are important to every country irrespective of what alliance it belongs to or whether it is nonalined or neutral. The tremendous funds spent on armaments are an increasingly heavy burden on the peoples' shoulders. Their reduction would make it possible to release considerable material funds for the peoples' good and the solution of mankind's vital common problems.

These important tasks requiring common efforts include the solution of the worlds raw material and energy problem, the development of transportation, environmental conservation and, in some areas of the globe, the elimination of serious mass disease, hunger, poverty and illiteracy.

The MSZMP's international activity and Hungary's foreign policy will continue to be determined by the noble ideas of internationalism, solidarity and friendship among the peoples and by the principles of peaceful coexistence. The entire Hungarian people fully support our international activity and foreign policy. We will continue to do everything possible to raise our prestige in the international arena. This in turn will help the interests of the people and the motherland and at the same time the cause of world progress and peace.

In the period under review our party, which is part of the world communist movement, following the 11th congress decisions and its own internationalist principles, has carried out energetic international activity. It has made a contribution to the common struggle for peace, socialism and progress, has promoted to the best of its abilities the strengthening of the unity of the Marxist-Leninist movement, which covers the whole world, and has itself derived strength from the international communist movement's experience. In the past years the international communist movement's influence has increased throughout the world.

The socialist countries' communist and workers parties are fulfilling their historic mission by being the leaders and organizers of the building of the new society. In the capitalist world the communist and workers parties' influence on the masses has strengthened and their social role has increased. The fraternal parties in the capitalist countries are in the vanguard of the struggle for democracy, social progress, working people's interests and rights and peace throughout the world and against monopoly capital's dominance and economic and political power. They resolutely oppose militarism, terrorism and also the danger of a revival of fascism.

The communist parties in the former colonial countries are a significant factor in the struggle for national independence and the strengthening of political and economic self-sufficiency. The MSZMP displays full solidarity with the struggle of the world's fraternal communist and workers parties.

The communist movement nowadays is typified by parties independence and the fact that they themselves devise and implement their own policy.

This increases the responsibility of all parties for the creative application of Marxism-Leninism, the strengthening of solidarity, the mutual study of experience and the development of cooperation during the struggle for our common aims.

Our party consistently subscribes to the viewpoint that the divergences in views that emerge in our movement must be cleared up through the principled, patient exchange of opinions so that this helps parties' cohesion, strengthens the movement's forces and promotes the enrichment of the scientific theory of Marxism-Leninism.

The MSZMP will continue to be guided in its international activity by the premise that joint action, common actions and the strengthening of bilateral and multilateral ties implemented on the principled basis of Marxism-Leninism must contribute to consolidating our movement's unity.

Our party attaches particular importance to the communist and workers parties' international conferences. These conferences offer an opportunity for the creative exchange of experience and opinions, joint analysis of the situation, the agreeing of viewpoints and the coordination of joint action.

Representatives of our party took an active part in preparing for the Berlin Conference of European Communist and Workers Parties and elaborating the common stance that provides an appropriate program of struggle for peace, security and social progress. For our part we are working to help further strengthen the fraternal parties' cooperation in accordance with the basic principles summed up in the conference document.

The struggle for the unity of the international communist movement demands defense of the basic principles of Marxism-Leninism and resolute opposition to attempts to disrupt unity. Our party struggles consistently against pseudorevolutionary trends, rightwing and leftist distortions of Marxism-Leninism and attempts to create splits.

We oppose anticommunism and the old and new forms in which anti-Sovietism is manifested. We resolutely reject Maoism as an essentially anti-Marxist ideology that, as early as the beginning of the sixties, was full of elements of nationalism and anti-Sovietism and aspirations to the role of hegemonic party.

At first the Maoists tried to disguise the nature of their ideology, by citing Leninism they sought to show themselves to be defenders of world socialism and consistent fighters against imperialism. Since then the desire for hegemony, anti-Sovietism and cooperation with the imperialists have been coming more and more clearly to the fore in the Chinese leaders' policy.

Guided by the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, the MSZMP seeks to support, develop and strengthen cooperation with all fraternal parties. In the 5 years since the 11th congress we have held useful bilateral talks with 78 fraternal parties operating in various regions of the world.

The MSZMP pays particular attention to strengthening ties with the CPSU. The historical experience of Lenin's party, of the Soviet communists, is of invaluable significance for our party and people. Our ties with the other fraternal parties in the socialist countries have continued to develop and expand. The exchange of experience on questions of building the new society is of great value to us. Following the principle of mutual solidarity, we have strengthened and are strengthening our internationalist ties with the communist and workers parties of capitalist and developing countries.

Guided by the common aims of the anti-imperialist struggle, our party is strengthening cooperation with developing countries' national democratic parties and their national liberation movements.

Our ties with the majority of West European socialist and social democratic parties have continued to expand in the past few years. This has contributed to improving our relations with the region's countries and to developing ties between European countries with different social systems. All this confirms that ideological contradictions and differences of political view do not rule out the possibility of cooperation on important issues of mutual interest such as promoting the cause of peace, security and disarmament.

The international communist and workers movement is a mighty and growing force in our era, a force that is advancing all mankind's development. The communists have no goal other than to serve cause of socialism, progress and peace in the interests of their peoples and all mankind.

Our party will continue to seek to insure that, by following its patriotic, international policy, it contributes through all its activity to the country's upsurge and at the same time to the attainment of the common aims of the international communist and workers movement.

KIRILENKO PRESENTS AWARD TO MSZMP'S LOSONCZI

LD281537 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Mar 80 p 4 LD

[TASS report "A High Award']

[Text] Kirilenko, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today presented Losonczi, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Presidium of the Hungarian People's Republic, with Order of the October Revolution. He has been given this award for his great services in the development of fraternal friendship and all-round cooperation between the USSR and Hungary and in connection with his 60th birthday.

Comrade Kirilenko spoke during the presentation of the order.

The Politburo of the Central Committee of our party and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of the USSR have entrusted me to present Comrade Pal Losonczi of the October Revolution Order.

The October revolution order was instituted to mark the 50th anniversary of the Soviet state. The order with the silhouette of the legendary Aurora is a symbol of the heroic achievements of the generations of revolutionary fighters for the affirmation of a just social structure, socialism, communism, peace and friendship between peoples.

Our fraternal parties, Comrade Kirilenko said, are doing colossal work to deepen the cooperation between our countries in the major fields of socialist and communist building and in the struggle for peace and international security. The Soviet people's attitude to the Hungarian communists, working people and their glorious revolutionary internationalist traditions is one of profound respect.

Taking part in the work of the 12th MSZMP Congress we have been able to sense very clearly that these internationalist traditions are not only being preserved. Thanks to the activity of Hungarian communists they are becoming ever richer and year by year are being filled with new and significant content. It is pleasing to recognize that the internationalist policy of our parties has become a vital matter for millions of Soviet and Hungarian citizens, a matter for our peoples, Andrey Pavlovich Kirilenko stressed.

This award, he said, is an expression of a high assessment of the constantly strengthening internationalist ties between our peoples, which were again convincingly manifested last year during the visit to Hungary of a Soviet party and government delegation headed by L.I. Brezhnev.

The Hungarian people, who are building socialism, the speaker said, treasure, strengthen and develop one of our most valuable common possessions--our selfless, fraternal friendship and mutual solidarity. In 35 years of free development the Hungarian people have made successful use of the historical potential opened up as a result of the liberation. People's Hungary today is a firm link in the community of the socialist countries. It is in the first ranks of the fighters for peace and social progress. Comrade Losonczi said: We will continue to follow the Leninist road and strengthen and deepen links and cooperation between our peoples.

CPSU DELEGATION LEAVES BUDAPEST AFTER MSZMP CONGRESS

LD281230 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The CPSU delegation headed by Kirilenko, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, left Budapest today for Moscow. The delegation took part in the MSZMP congress at the invitation of the MSZMP Central Committee. The delegation comprised Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Sokolov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and second secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee; and Pavlov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR ambassador to Hungary.

It was seen off at the airport by Nemeth, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee; Gyenes, secretary of the Central Committee; and other officials. Among the seeing-off party was Szueros, member of the MSZMP Central Committee and Hungarian ambassador to the USSR.

LUNS' 'INVENTION' ABOUT THREATENING YUGOSLAVIA REJECTED

LD281452 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1314 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, 28 March, TASS--TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov writes:

"Autumn weather is rainy and elderly people are garrulous" goes a well-known Russian proverb, and this can wholly and totally be related to J. Luns, secretary general of NATO. This elderly gentleman who, as is known, began his career in the fascist ranks who were making ready for a Brown assault on Europe, nowadays is loth to miss an opportunity to make pronouncements on the theme of a mythical "Soviet threat", much loved by the NATO folk. And so the other day, speaking before the microphones of the French radio station France-Inter, Luns once again rode his favorite hobbyhorse. Where did he discover the notorious 'threat' this time? It appears that the USSR is threatening...Yugoslavia!

The invention is not new, just as the whole scheme of Luns' argumentation strongly reeks of moth balls. The substance of this scheme is that, first of all, the Atlantic strategists will invent some nonexisting "threat" and subsequently determine for themselves against whom this "threat" is aimed, and then insist on offering their services as some sort of "defenders" of certain independent states and peoples, totally ignoring the fact that the states in question neither ask for a "defense" of this kind nor are in need of it.

We repeat: The scenario is an old one. But what can one do when there is nothing new in the NATO propaganda arsenal? Mr Luns has to play the worn-out record for the umpteenth time.

The aim of this thoroughly boring Atlantic tune is obvious: To drive a wedge in the relations between two fraternal socilaist countries, to sow feelings of suspicion and ill-will toward the Soviet Union and its policy in Yugoslavia. But for whom, one may wonder, are such provocative maneuvers calculated? If we take the position of Yugoslavia, then it is well known; it has been set out repeatedly with exhaustive clarity by the SFRY President J. Broz Tito, who has stressed the importance of consolidating and developing Yugoslav-Soviet friendship and cooperation. It was set out again recently at a session of the Yugoslav Assembly by the resident of the SFRY Federal Executive Council, V. Djuranovic, who pointed out that "relations and cooperation with the Soviet Union are developing successfully on the basis of the principles contained in all the documents on Soviet-Yugoslav meetings at summit level."

The stand of the USSR is no less well known: Soviet people note with a feeling of fraternal solidarity the successes attained by Yugoslav workers in the socialist transformation of society; they are convinced that the further deepening of the relations between the CPSU and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, the USSR and SFRY, on the basis of the principles and agreements contained in joint documents that have been accepted as a result of Soviet-Yugoslav summit meetings is in the fundamental interest of the peoples of our countries and the cause of peace and socialism.

Such is the state of affairs. So far as the ill-intentioned fabrications of Mr Luns on the subject of a "Soviet threat", which allegedly hangs over Yugoslavia, is concerned, these are nothing but soap bubbles that will burst as soon as they see daylight. The dirty splatter from these bubbles will fly toward the one who launches them, and no farther....

NATO 'ANORAK EXPRESS' EXERCISES END

LD292126 Moscow TASS in English 2025 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Oslo, March 29, TASS--Major NATO exercises, codenamed Anorak Express, have ended in the north of Norway.

They lasted for a month and included an operation to airlift troops and military equipment from Britain, Canada, the FRG and other countries. There were also ground exercises with the participation of about 24,000 officers and men of seven NATO states.

Airforce exercises were held simultaneously. They involved about 100 fighters and fighter-bombers of the air forces of the USA, Britain, Holland, the FRG and other countries.

Newspaper reports confirm the fact that the Pentagon and the NATO command were using the Anorak Express exercises for checking in a situation, simulating a combat one, the latest types ofmilitary equipment, including landing craft intended for the operations of the "quick reaction crops." Specifically a unit of American marines numbering about 1,800 men as well as 200 tanks, armoured personnel carriers and trucks were landed by the up-to-date landing ship Sipan, which had on board about 50 heavy helicopters, and other landing ships in the area to the north of the polar circle.

The press says unanimously that the disembarkation of this landing force was the biggest ever operation carried out by American Marines in NATO's far-northern flank. It should be pointed out that NATO's practice combat actions in the north of Norway were accompanied with a noisy propaganda campaign the purpose of which was to further draw the NATO countries of the region--Norway and Denmark--into NATO's militaristic preparations.

There is a growing awareness of the danger of such actions among the broad public circles in the Nordic countries where people say that the current NATO exercises as well as plans for deploying heavy American arms in northern Norway are at variance with the interests of detente in the region.

NORWEGIAN MILITARY COOPERATION WITH U.S., NATO SCORED

LD272227 Moscow TASS in English 2050 GMT 27 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 27, TASS--According to reports from Oslo, Norway's Prime Minister Odvar Nordli, speaking last Sunday in Elverum, said that his government is conducting a balanced foreign policy that takes into account considerations of the country's security and the striving to maintain stable relations with other countries. He also said that the strengthening and preservation of relations of goodneighbourliness and mutually advantageous cooperation with the Soviet Union is one of the most important aspects of Norway's foreign policy.

Such a statement coming from Norwegian prime minister can only be welcomed. Facts show, however, that Washington managed to draw Norway in its aggressive plans against the will of the Norwegian people. Thus, the biggest exercises of NATO's armed forces in the recent years designed as a show of strength of the NATO military bloc near the borders of the Soviet Union are being held for nearly a month in the north of Norway.

Odvar Nordli expressed displeasure with the critical pronouncements of the Soviet press concerning the plans of building arsenals for heavy U.S. military equipment in Norway's territory and in connection with other plans aimed at stepping up Norway's military role in the framework of the aggressive North Atlantic bloc. Meanwhile, the Soviet press was criticising and is criticising not the Norwegian Government but the policy that Washington, far from abandoning these plans, is seeking to speed up their implementation.

An agreement signed today determines to what points and in what way U.S. military contingents meant to be deployed in the Norwegian territory will be brought.

A few days ago, NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Europe, General Bernard Rogers publicly demanded that the Norwegian authorities should speed up the signing of the agreements on the deployment of U.S. military equipment in Norway's territory. The U.S. mass media make such calls every day.

TURKISH-U.S. DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT CRITICIZED

LD292058 Moscow TASS in English 1854 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Ankara, March 29, TASS--A Turkish-American agreement on cooperation in joint defense was signed here today. Under this agreement Turkey is to lease to the United States for five years twenty-six military bases in its territory which have been used lately by the Pentagon on the basis of a temporary status. In exchange Washington promised to give Turkey military and economic aid, which is to amount to over 450 million dollars in 1980, and to supply it with military equipment. By drawing Turkey into its militaristic preparations in the Middle East, dangerous to the cause of peace, the United States is pushing that country on to the path of aggravating the situation in the region, a path fraught with complications both for Turkey itself and for international peace. As is reported by the Turkish weekly YANKI, the United States made it clear to Turkey in February this year that if there was a need for American military intervention in the Persinal Gulf and the Indian Ocean Turkey would be required to provide "transit services" for the transportation of military units and equipment from the United States to the region.

In the opinion of local observers the newly signed agreement paves the way for the realization of these plans of the Pentagon and makes it easier for the United States to organize armed intervention against Iran in view of the aggravation of Iranian-American relations. S. Gurscytrak, senator for life, speaking in Parliament, said that because of the presence of U.S. and NATO military installations in Turkey the latter may find itself involved in the events in Iran against its will and contrary to its national interests. Democratically minded people in Turkey are strongly protesting against American military presence in Turkish territory, stressing that this military presence infringes Turkey's sovereignty and jeopardizes peace in the region and throughout the world. The newspaper BARISH says that Turkey runs great risks by leasing military bases to the United States.

IZVESTIYA HITS 'FABRICATION' ABOUT FRENCH POLICY SHIFT

LD281341 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Mar 80 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Correspondent A. Krivopalov rejoinder "Clumsy Attempts"; from the "World Today" feature compiled by S. Chugrov]

[Text] People in Paris have still not forgotten, our correspondent A. Krivopalov reports, how U.S. Ambassador to France A. Hartman, addressing the American Club, ventured remarks improper for a diplomat concerning French foreign policy (see IZVESTIYA No 47). The ambassador's prank was evaluated at its true worth in France. Even rightwing newspapers, which ordinarily assiduously defend American positions and ideas, were forced to react critically to the U.S. diplomat's overfree instructions. And left forces sharply and categorically condemned this attempt to put political pressure on Paris. But the indignation over this fact had not had time to die down before American propaganda undertook a new anti-French maneuver, this time by using the Paris-published American newspaper the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE.

Citing some "high-placed French spokesman," who reportedly wished to remain incognito, the newspaper alleged that "France is prepared to reduce its political contacts with the Soviet Union." It also speaks of Paris' intention to support the idea of a boycott of the Moscow Olympics and so forth. Clearly betraying its wishes, the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE concludes from the sensational report which it itself created that such a reappraisal would "bring West European policy closer to American views." This action, too, by all accounts, has been evaluated accordingly in Paris. At any rate LE MONDE pointed out that "responsible circles express surprise at certain reports of some changes in French policy toward Moscow." Since the fabrication failed to achieve its purpose, the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE editors decided not to stand on ceremony and published another article on the same topic, whose headline betrayed their irritation: "France's Two-Faced Policy." Obviously, some people in the United States in no way want to understand that French policy is not determined on the other side of the ocean, still less within the walls of the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE editorial offices.

IRANIAN RADIO REPORT ON SOVIET-AFGHAN GAS DEAL DENIED

LD291710 Moscow TASS in English 0610 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 29, TASS--TASS commentator Aleksandr Kozlov writes:

The "Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran" radio station broadcast a comment which asserts that, allegedly, the exports of natural gas from Afghanistan to the Soviet Union will increase 30 times this year over the previous, with the Afghan Government allegedly being prepared to supply it at only half the price existing at the international market.

According to the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade, the assertions of the Tehran Radio do not square with reality. This year, no sharp changes are expected in the supplies of Afghan gas to the Soviet Union. The supplies will remain on the level of the last several years: at about 2.0-2.4 billion cubic metres a year. In the process, the prices will not be lower than those at which the Soviet Union sells its own natural gas abroad.

That is also why failing to square with facts is the assertion of the radio to the effect that the Soviet Union allegedly resorts to such purchases in Afghanistan in order to bring pressure to bear on Iran to force it to sell its gas cheaper.

In this connection, one would wish to reiterate the position of the Soviet side which was expounded to newsmen by Deputy Foreign Trade Minister of the USSR Nikolay Osipov following the talks in Tehran.

At the negotiations, he said, the Soviet delegation proceeded from principles which are just and equitable for both parties: First, the price must correspond to the level of gas prices existing in the trade region of which Iran and the Soviet Union are part. Secondly, the price must be realistic and competitive, i.e. to be a price at which both countries can realistically sell gas in the trade region. Thirdly, it is natural that the Soviet Union, which is a major gas exporter, is not prepared to purchase gas from Iran at prices higher than those at which it sells its own gas to other countries. The Soviet Union does not wish to make Iran sell its gas to it at prices lower than it could get by selling it to other countries.

We offered the Iranian side a price largely exceeding the previous, with account for the prices existing in the region and other factors, Nikolay Osipov went on to say. We also proposed that the price be further revised to adjust it to the fluctuations in oil prices. Unfortunately, however, the Iranian delegation adopted an unconstructive attitude. The price offered by it was clearly exaggerated and economically unjustified. There are no such prices in the said region. Some Iranian officials stated that if the price offered by the Iranian side is not accepted, then Iran will not sell it but would rather burn it. Well, this is up to the Iranian Government and the people to decide how to dispose of gas obtained during the extraction of oil.

IRAN ADOPTS 'SURPRISING' STAND TOWARD AFGHAN 'BANDITS'

LD281730 Moscow TASS in English 1650 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tehran, March 28, TASS--Former Afghan feudal lords and other counterrevolutionary rabble who have entrenched themselves after the April revolution outside the country have actually become ordinary criminals--speculators, bandits and drug traffickers. This statement is supported by numerous facts cited among others, in the Iranian press.

The newspaper ETTELA'AT reports that recently about 300 so-called "Afghan revolutionaries" were taken to a Tehran police station for participating in a throat-cutting scuffle in the Tehran street Moulawi which resulted in killed and wounded. Following the arrest, the police confiscated knives, brass-knuckles, daggers and other weapons.

The rampages of the counterrevolutionary Afghan rabble brought the situation in the Iranian provinces Sistan and Baluchistan to such a hot point that the attorney of the province demanded an end to the rampages of the bandits. He warned that the Afghan "revolutionaries" will be punished under Iranian laws for such offences as carrying weapons, drug traffic and commission of other crimes.

On the whole, however, the position taken by the Iranian authorities with regard to the Afthan basmatchs and bandits cannot but cause surprise. Thus, for instance, according to high-ranking officials of a Tehran district revolutionary council, the office of the country's president has instructed the security and law enforcement authorities not to arrest for illicit acts those Afghans who carry membership cards of any "Islamic political parties or movements." It was this instruction that provided the basis for the release of the participants in the throat-cutting scuffle in the Iranian street, most of whom carry membership cards of the "Hezb-e Eslami" Party--a major counter-revolutionary Afghan group engaged in subversive activities against the April revolution and the lawful government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

BEHESHTI REMARKS ON SHAH'S EXTRADITION CITED

LD291548 Moscow TASS in English 1501 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tehran, March 29, TASS--M. Beheshti, secretary of the Islamic Revolutionary Council of Iran, chief justice of the Supreme Court, demanded that Egypt extradite the former shah whohas committed numerous crimes against the Iranian people. Speaking over Tehran Radio, Beheshti accused the A.R.E. President as-Sadat of betraying the Egyptian people and Islam.

It is also significant that a whole number of representative of the Islamic Revolutionary Council these days came forward with statements setting out clearly and explicitly the main conditions for the release of the U.S. hostages: The United States' recognition of the facts of U.S. criminal interference in the internal affairs of Iran in the past, renunciation of such an interference in the future, extradition of the bloody tyrant for putting him on trial for the crimes against the Iranian people, and the return of the wealth plundered by the shah's family, wealth which wound up, in particular, in the money boxes of the Chase Manhattan Bank and other major U.S. banks.

However, it is exactly those U.S. influential circles, which are prepared to protect, that do not intend to satisfy the just demands of the Iranians.

KONDRASHOV ON U.S., EGYPTIAN HELP TO SHAH

LD290424 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] The former shah of Iran, Mohammed Reza Pahlavi has found another refuge, this time in Egypt. Our observer Stanislav Kondrashov writes:

If we had looked for a person who suffered the cruelest twist of fate, we'd find that the former shah of Iran would have a good chance to win first place. Without a doubt, he is a victim of the irony of fate. It's an irony that more is being written and said about him now than when he was the absolute ruler of his country and people and he told other leaders with the confidence of an 18th century autocrat how to keep their citizens and subjects in line. His name is in the news more often now than ever, only the news is not so pleasant.

It's certainly an irony that although he still has his billions, not even the most daring of his supporters is ready to risk in a court of law denying that he gained his billions by theft. The label of the thief or robber cannot be raised if a man was branded by the people he once ruled. I don't want to dwell on the subject of fate, but I would like to mention one more irony, also a rather obvious one, writes Stanislav Kondrashov. Here we have a man who is fantastically wealthy and the planet we live on is huge, yet the former monarch cannot find a place for himself. He fled from his own country, Mexico rejected him and Panama only took him in because of the efforts of the White House and American friends. The situation was clearly unpleasant for him but now he is in a military hospital in Cairo enjoying As-Sadat's ostentatious hospitality.

News analysts have always noted the current Egyptian president's eccentricity and are now trying to figure out his actions. Is there any political reason for As-Sadat's openly friendly meeting with Pahlavi and his well-publicized invitation to the ousted shah to stay in Egypt permanently? As-Sadat is clearly playing a risky game. He has further undermined his reputation with the other Arab countries. After all, one step towards Pahlavi is one step on the road As-Sadat chose 2 and 1/2 years ago when he went to Jerusalem. This is also the way he went 1 year ago, when he signed the separate Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty against the wishes of the Arab countries. What is As-Sadat hoping to gain by defying the Iranians, the Arab people and the Egyptian people who overthrew King Farouk? The king was not overthrown so that some day a ruler driven away by his own people would be welcome in Egypt.

As-Sadat's actions are not due to eccentricity but to the desire to win favor. He is hoping to please Washington, since the United States cannot give its friend a home because of the American hostages in Tehran. ABC's correspondent in Cairo has reported that As-Sadat's decision to take in the shah is a way of winning favor of Washington, where the Egyptian leader is due in the near future. The Washington POST has also noted that As-Sadat's position makes him a kind of successor to the former shah in the Middle East, in terms of protecting Western interests. Well, that's putting it bluntly--a successor to the shah, but I'd like to add that As-Sadat will wind up having the same fate, writes Stanislav Kondrashov.

The United States' official role in the latest move of the flying dutchman, the former shah, is being hushed up. The United States President and State Department officials are acting as if they did not have anything to do with the latest move. They have indicated that if any American lent a helping hand they were just private citizens, such well-known individuals as Henry Kissinger and David Rockefeller. Of course, in such a delicate operation, it's better to have a division of labor. Although Pincus and Goshko of the Washington POST have written about the involvement of official Washington, they said that concrete agreements were made between the American administration and the former shah and that President Carter believes it would be wrong to ignore the close relations with the shah that every United States president has had since Truman. The reporters said that according to one official source there's no time limit on American's commitment to the shah and that the administration will continue to follow its obligations.

What about this unlimited commitment? Here there's no room for irony. This is a strange practice in international relations, to say the least. It seems that the American Government makes its commitments not to the people or to the state of another country but to the individual who once governed the people and the state in the interests of the American Government.

MOUNTING OPPOSITION TO SHAH'S STAY IN EGYPT SEEN

LD301740 Moscow TASS in English 1540 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Cairo, March 30, TASS--In Egypt there is mounting opposition to the stay of the former Iranian shah in the country. Speaking at a meeting of the People's Assembly (parliament) of the A.R.E., an-Nasir, an independent deputy, emphasised that a granting of political asylum to the person whose numerous crimes have been exposed by his own people runs counter to the provisions of the Egyptian Constitution.

It has been proved that Mohammad Reza Pahlavi had destroyed thousands of people and is a murderer. The whole world rejected him, said Shukri, chairman of the Socialist Labour Party. He emphasized that the Iranian people have described the former monarch as the most cruel and greedy ruler of all times. However, a spokesman for the pro-governmental majority of parliament, Sufi Abu Talib, demanded that the epithet "murderer" with regard to the shah be excluded from parliamentary reports. Despite the protests of the opposition, the ruling As-Sadat party managed to pilot through parliament a resolution confirming the Egyptian Government's decision to grant political asylum to the former Iranian shah.

PALESTINIAN AUTONOMY TALKS IN ALEXANDRIA 'FAIL'

LD302036 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] As we have already reported, the 11th round of American-Israeli-Egyptian talks on so-called administrative autonomy for the population of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip has been held in the Egyptian port of Alexandria. Our correspondent in the Near East, Leonid Rassadin, reports: Just like previous talks on the same question, the present meeting failed to yield specific results. Let us recall that under the separate Israeli-Egyptian accords the deadline for settling the issue of the notorious administrative autonomy for Palestinians expires on 26 May. However, the sides have made no progress. In an attempt to break the deadlock, President Carter has invited Prime Minister Begin and President as-Sadat to Washington in April. They will individually hold talks with the head of the U.S. administration. In this connection officials in Washington are calling on Tel Aviv and Cairo to exercise restraint and patience in the face of the disaffection of the Arab public. As Arab observers note, appeals of this kind have long been a screen for the United States, designed to cover up its pro-Israeli and accordingly anti-Arab policy in the Near East.

Past experience shows that Washington pursues a stable foreign policy course with regard to Tel Aviv, with which it has established a special relationship. In the firm conviction of Arabs, the United States invariably uses Israel as its policy truncheon to protect its own imperialist interests in the region. And it is no coincidence that on the eve of the Alexandria talks the U.S. House of Representatives Foreign Relations Committee adopted the decision to increase the present military credits for Israel by another $200 million. Moreover, in a situation in which the Tel Aviv rulers continually experience ever-increasing transatlantic backing, Israel is intensifying its annexationist claims to occupied Arab lands. Literally just before the start of the Alexandria talks, Begin declared openly that the Israelis intend to continue to establish their settlements on the West Bank, including Hebron. What is more, a special mission of the chief of the Israeli Cabinet is to be opened in occupied East Jerusalem in the near future.

It comes as no surprise that in response to the high-handedness of the Israeli occupation authorities the Arab population of the West Bank intensifies its protest movement. Fresh large demonstrations by Palestinians have taken place in the occupied Arab sector of Jerusalem and also in other localities. The Arabs sharply condemn the perfidious Camp David collusion and demand the upholding of the Palestinian people's right to self determination, and first and foremost their right to the creation of their own independent state.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON ANGOLAN MINISTER'S VISIT TO MOSCOW

LD301720 Moscow in Portuguese to Africa 2030 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] A delegation from the People's Republic of Angola led by Roberto de Almeida, member of the Central Committee of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA]-Labor Party and minister of planning, has been in Moscow on an official visit. The Angolan delegation held talks with representatives of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations and has been received by Nikolay Baybakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Planning Committee. A series of agreements on cooperation in various sectors of the economy have been signed. This is how the head of the delegation, Roberto de Almeida, characterized the recent talks in statements for Soviet radio and television: [begin recording]

The talks passed in the best possible way and we achieved results which we regard as quite satisfactory. We have signed agreements which will strengthen, in a decisive way, our cooperation with the USSR above all in the spheres of agriculture, industry, (electricity) and health. These spheres are very important in our country because we want to provide our people with the minimum material conditions so as to enable them to implement in a material and practical way our efforts toward the building of socialism in Angola.

On the other hand, we are also aware of our specific situation in the overall context of southern Africa and know that we are constantly being judged by our enemies and those countries with regimes different from ours. If our efforts toward the improvement of the material conditions of our people fail, this will be regarded as a victory by our enemies and proof that socialism does not suit the African peoples.

That is why we are particularly committed to this task of improving our people's material standard of living. In this effort we count basically on the support being given by the socialist countries. [end recording]

Those were statements by Roberto de Almeida, member of the MPLA Central Committee and minister of planning who led a delegation of the People's Republic of Angola which paid an official visit to the USSR last week.

ETHIOPIAN NEWS AGENCY CITED ON U.S. TROOPS IN SOMALIA

LD290940 Moscow TASS in English 0850 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 29, TASS--According to foreign press reports, the United States, which is seeking from Somalia the military base in Berbera, has started sending its military personnel there. According to the ETHIOPIAN NEWS AGENCY U.S. military units are already on their way to Berbera. This action, the agency points out, is a component part of the plan of the U.S. administration for creating a force for interference and jeopardizes peace and stability in the Red Sea and Indian Ocean area.

The agency points out that the large-scale dispatch of U.S. troops to Berbera constitutes a serious danger to the littoral states of the Indian Ocean, where U.S. imperialism is building up its efforts for broadening the military, economic and political positions of the USA.

A spokesman for the Pentagon was in a hurry to refute this report by the Ethiopian news agency. But as the FRANCE PRESSE AGENCY points out quoting reliable sources in its telegramme from Washington, U.S. military personnel is expected to be soon stationed in Berbera. The agency quotes the sources as saying that from 500 to 1,000 U.S. civilian specialists and servicemen are expected to arrive soon in Somalia in connection with the U.S. plan to use the naval base and airport in Berbera.

FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN EL SALVADOR UNREST

U.S. Exploitation

LD280955 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Mar 80 p 5 LD

[Sergey Svistunov "Commentator's Column": "Behind the Conspirators"]

[Text] The situation in El Salvador has again deteriorated. In recent days a new wave of bloody repressions has swept the country. Fascist paramilitary formations are terrorizing organizations of patriotic forces, trade unions and peasants demanding the expropriation of landowners' land. Among those who have fallen at the hands of the hired killers in recent days was Oscar Arnulfo Romero, archbishop of San Salvador, who was well known for his statements in defense of El Salvador patriots and against violence and terror by the fascist gangs.

In an atmosphere of polarization of class forces, the ruling military-civilian junta is trying to strengthen its positions by means of demagogic promises. To this end it has announced plans for agrarian reform, the nationalization of private banks and the establishment of state export controls. But this is not reducing the temperature of the social contradictions. In the opinion of the New York TIMES the junta's very existence reflects the political chaos in the country. By organizing it, reaction is almost overtly preparing a coup.

Washington is behind the conspirators. It is the United States which is vigorously urging El Salvador reaction toward a Pinochet-type putsch. At the same time American diplomacy is continuing to flirt with the junta, both to distract attention and to provide a "backup version" in the event of the failure of a rightwing coup. The United States has announced the granting to El Salvador of extraordinary economic assistance to the tune of $49.8 million and also its readiness to grant weapons and military credits of the order of $8 million and also to send military advisers.

American imperialism is striving to prevent a democratic solution to the problems facing Central American states. To this end it is energetically knocking together an ultra-rightwing military alliance of "gorillas" between Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador. Washington is stepping up its direct military presence in the region. A real threat of open U.S. military intervention is hanging over the small Central American country. The American journal NATION notes that Washington intends to use the deterioration in the situation in El Salvador as a "convenient pretext for sending in U.S. marines and suppressing the revolutionary upsurge in the region."

The sinister plans of the Pentagon military and the "hawks" on Capitol Hill are arousing concern among all Latin American peoples.

Roads to Capital Blocked

LD301750 Moscow TASS in English 1602 GMT 30 Mar 80 LD

[Text] San Jose, March 30, TASS--According to reports from El Salvador, tens of thousands of people of that country and numerous representatives of the religious circles of Latin America, Europe and other continents arrived in the capital of San Salvador to attend today's funeral of Oscar Arnulfo Romero, the head of the Catholic Church of El Salvador. He was attrociously murdered by fascist thugs for his consistent action in defence of the masses of the people, against interference in the republic's internal affairs on the part of the USA which in every way made for the toughening of the sanguinary terror and reprisals against progressive democratic forces.

Army units and police are blocking all the approaches to the Salvadoran capital. They are trying to bar the way to workers, peasants, employees and students who are coming from all over the country to pay their last respects to the courageous fighter for the rights of the working people, for freedom and independence of the motherland.

On the government's orders, troops occupied and closed down the country's two largest, after San Salvador, cities San Miguel and Santa Ana. Shootings down, indiscriminate searches and arrests began there. Jose Fausto Sisnero, former mayor of San Miguel, and his comrade Alberto Moreiro were killed. On the outskirts of the city, a patrol of punitive troops shot point blank at several teenagers that were trying to get to San Salvador for the funeral ceremony.

ROMANOV HOLDS TALKS WITH NICARAGUAN DELEGATION

LD291007 Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 21 Mar 80 p 1 LD

[LENTASS report: "Warm Meetings in Leningrad"]

[Excerpt] The Republic of Nicaragua Government and party delegation headed by Moises Hassan, member of the Ruling Council of the Government of National Reconstruction, which is in the Soviet Union on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government, arrived in Leningrad from Moscow yesterday. It includes members of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) Tomas Borge, Henri Ruiz, Humberto Ortega and others.

The delegation was met at Pulkovo Airport, which was decked with the state flags of the Republic of Nicaragua, the Soviet Union and the Russian Federation, by G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningradskiy Obkom; L.N. Zaykov, chairman of the Leningrad Gorispolkom; R.S. Bobovikov, secretary of the Leningradskiy Obkom; A.N. Shibalov, chairman of the Leningradskiy Oblispolkom and other officials. The guests were also met by representatives of the working people.

From the airport the members of the delegation set off for the city accompanied by an honorary escort of motorcyclists. The streets and squares through which the motorcade passed were decked with the state flags of the Republic of Nicaragua, the Soviet Union and the Russian Federation and welcoming posters in the Spanish and Russian languages.

In Victory Square the Republic of Nicaragua's envoys inspected the monument to the heroic defenders of Leningrad and laid flowers at its central group of sculptures.

The same day the delegation was received at the Smolnyy by G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningradskiy Obkom. During a warm and friendly conversation he stressed that Leningraders, like all Soviet people, reacted with satisfaction to the signing of the Soviet-Nicaraguan documents envisaging the development of relations between the two countries.

During the meeting emphasis was placed on the importance of further strengthening the cohesion and unity of action of all progressive forces in the struggle for peace and international security, the end to the arms race, the deepening of the relaxation of international tension and the spreading of it to all regions of the world.

G.V. Romanov acquainted the guests with the main trends of the activity of the Leningrad party organization in implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee November (1979) Plenum, and gave an account of the preparations by city and oblast working people for the 110th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth.

After expressing their thanks for the cordial welcome, the members of the Republic of Nicaragua Government and party delegation noted that the talks which have been completed in Moscow and the joint documents adopted have opened up good prospects for the expansion of cooperation in the interests of the peoples of both countries.

Participating in the conversation were L.N. Zaykov, chairman of the Leningrad Gorispolkom; R.S. Bobovikov, secretary of the Leningradskiy Obkom; A.N. Shibalov, chairman of the Leningradskiy Oblispolkom, and other officials.

PONOMAREV HOLDS TALKS WITH JAMAICAN DELEGATION

LD261501 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Mar 80 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "Visit of Delegation"]

[Text] A delegation of the People's National Party [PNP] of Jamaica was in the Soviet Union 16 through 19 March. The delegation included D.K. Duncan, general secretary of the party (head of the delegation), (D. Khevin), member of the party's Executive Committee, (K. Devis), member of the PNP Economic Commission, (M. Khenri), deputy leader of the PNP women's movement, and B. Clare, Jamaican ambassador to the USSR.

The delegation had a meeting in the CPSU Central Committee with B.N. Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and A.S. Chernyayev, member of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission and deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department. Questions of Soviet-Jamaican relations and party ties between the CPSU and the PNP and certain topical international problems were discussed.

Concern was expressed at the deterioration in the international situation as a result of American imperialism's actions, including its actions in the Caribbean. The importance of active joint efforts was stressed by all peace-loving forces, including the nonalined movement, to prevent a new "cold war" and halt the arms race imposed by aggressive circles, which is harmful to all peoples and impedes the resolution of difficult economic problems, which for many states are associated with a prolonged colonial past.

The CPSU representatives declared solidarity with the PNP, which jointly with other democratic organizations defends the working people's vital interests and advocates social progress and independent development for its country.

The two delegations reasserted their desire to develop cooperation between the CPSU and the PNP and promote the strengthening of friendship between the Soviet and Jamaican peoples.

The meeting passed in a warm, comradely atmosphere.

The delegation had talks in the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade with Deputy Minister G.K. Zhuravlev and in the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations with Deputy Chairman I.I. Chernyshev.

The PNP delegation laid a wreath at the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum.

The delegation left for home on 19 March.

CRITIC SVETOV WELCOMES EXPULSION FROM WRITERS UNION

LD281043 Paris LE MATIN in French 24 Mar 80 p 10 LD

[Unattributed report: "Writer Expelled"]

[Text] The orthodox Soviet writer Feliks Svetov considers himself "a free man" since his expulsion from the Writers' Union last Thursday for sending a letter of support to Sakharov. Considered one of NOVY MIR's better literary citicis during the liberal sixties, Svetov stated on Saturday: "By expelling me the Writers' Union has released me from the heavy responsibility for its crimes against Russia and Russian literature."

TRIAL OF USSR DISSIDENT MALVA LANDA SCHEDULED FOR 16 APRIL

LD291407 Paris L'AURORE in French 25 Mar 80 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "Moscow: Trial of the Dissident Malva Landa in April"]

[Text] It was learned from dissident sources on Monday that the trial of 58 year-old dissident Malva Landa, a member of the Moscow group monitoring the application of the Helsinki accords, is to open 26 April in Vladimir (200 km from Moscow).

A driving force behind the political prisoners aid fund, Mrs Malva Landa was arrested at the start of the month and charged with "spreading anti-Soviet slander." She risks 3 years' detention under this charge.

Previously sentenced to 2 years forced residence in 1977 "for having set fire to her apartment," Mrs Malva Landa regularly informed Western journalists of arrests, trials and inquiries which affected dissident circles.

The arrest of Mrs Malva Landa, one of the central dissident figures in the USSR, is part of a large "ideological clean-up" which the authorities began last November, Moscow observers believe.

KOMMUNIST REVIEWS BOOK BY CPSU'S ANDROPOV ON DISSIDENTS

LD281412 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1122 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 28, TASS--The CPSU Central Committee journal KOMMUNIST gives a lofty response to a book, published in Moscow, by Yuriy Andropov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR state security committee, entitled "Selected Speeches and Articles," which throws light on topical questions of the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy activity. "All the successes scored by the Soviet people in building communism and in the struggle for the interests of socialism, for peace and social progress and for bringing down the aggressive schemes of imperialism are inextricably bound up with the CPSU's activities," says the review.

"Soviet people are rightly proud of the fact that one of the greatest gains of socialism is the sociopolitical and ideological unity of our society. Imperialism also sees this and therefore directs its ideological sabotage primarily toward undermining the unity of our society and its cohesion around Lenin's party. It strives to turn man against socialism or, at any rate, to make him ideologically bankrupt, to bring out feelings of egoism, distrust, and uncertainty; to sow apoliticism; to cloud and poison his consciousness with nationalistic prejudices; and to shake his communist conviction. After all, it is precisely the morally bankrupt individual, politically spineless and susceptible to all manner of disinformation, sensation and rumor, who becomes the victim of ideological sabotage. "The materials of the collection show that in the Soviet Union there are no social or class grounds for anti-Soviet activity."

"But this by no means implies that under socialism there may not appear individuals whose views and behavior contradict our morals and our laws," continues KOMMUNIST. "Such views and behavior may appear for various reasons. This may be caused by insufficient ideological training, religious fanaticism and nationalistic hangovers, everyday living difficulties and demoralization, unwillingness to work or even just excessive resentment or psychiatric disorder.

"The organizers of ideological sabotage which, in essence, has been elevated by a number of imperialist powers to the rank of state policy, understand that by acting abroad only they will not succeed in realizing their subversive schemes. Therefore, with feverish haste they are seeking renegades in our country and other socialist countries who might be adapted for this. We are talking here about those who are termed 'champions' of human rights in the West. What 'rights' are they supporting?

"If you peel away the verbiage of bourgeois propaganda it is not difficult to see that these renegades and their Western sponsors would like to have the 'right' to slander Soviet reality, violate social order and to undermine the foundations of socialist society. Such 'rights' have never been granted, nor will they be, by the Soviet people."

"When such 'champions' of rights worm their way with their ideas into a labor collective, whether this be a collective of workers, agricultural workers or representatives of the intelligentsia, they are invariably given a decisive rebuff," KOMMUNIST points out. "This, incidentally, confirms once again that such renegades only serve the interests of their own foreign patrons. They live on hand-outs from abroad, which come as payment for the supply of various kinds of slanderous fabrications about our Soviet reality. The bourgeois mass disinformation media rave and drool over the list of those whom the imperialist special services are trying to turn into their own paid agents.

"In our country, when those people go astray attempts are invariably made to help them, to dispel their doubts, to revive their convictions. But a different kind of action must be taken in those cases when certain renegades, or as they are called in the West, 'dissidents' [dissidenty] begin by their actions to infringe our way of doing things. Judicial measures must be applied to such people and they must be punished in accordance with the requirements of Soviet laws."

"The book examines favorable changes on the world scene which marked the seventies, especially the first half. These positive processes were given the name 'relaxation of international tension', KOMMUNIST writes. In relations between states with different social structures the principles of peaceful coexistence, on the basis of which development of mutually advantageous political, economic and cultural links was set up, began to occupy an increasingly firm position. The threat of nuclear war was successfully removed."

PRAVDA OBITUARY PRAISES WORK OF BORIS STRELNIKOV

LD310829 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Mar 80 p 8 LD

[Obituary: "To a Comrade's Memory"]

[Text] The PRAVDA collective and Soviet journalism have suffered a grave, irreparable loss. PRAVDA's correspondent Boris Georgiyevich Strelnikov has died suddenly.

He lived a worthy, honest life. He became tankman at 18. That was in 1941. He fought as a turret gunner on the famous T-34 in the Kuban and the Donbass. On being demobilized he became a Komsomol worker and than a Komsomol journalist. He devoted 7 years to work in the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA editorial offices and was a member of its editorial board. His unusually vivid, sharp and fascinating feature articles, reportages and pamphlets placed him among the leading journalists dealing with international affairs.

But Boris Strelnikov's talent developed and strengthened particularly in PRAVDA's pages, when the editors of the party's central organ entrusted him with one of the most important and responsible outposts abroad--the correspondents position in the United States. For more than 15 years PRAVDA's readers learned about life in that major capitalist country from Boris Strelnikov's materials. These materials invariably elicited a lively response from Soviet and foreign readers, they were awaited and discussed in workers collectives, and the country's young journalists learned from them. As a party journalist and communist writer, he made his contribution to the cause of strengthening friendship and mutual understanding among peoples.

Boris Strelnikov had a tremendously responsible attitude toward his new work as PRAVDA's correspondent in Britain. The newspaper carried his first features and dispatches from London, which, alas, were fated to be his last....

Boris Strelnikov wrote many fascinating books which were repeatedly published and republished here and abroad. B. Strelnikov was awarded the Order of Lenin for his work in journalism, and he received the Vorovskiy Prize.

Boris Strelnikov enjoyed the tremendous love and respect of the PRAVDA collective and of all all who knew him. He was a strong and good man, an excellent comrade and friend. He was a brave soldier, an indefatigable worker and an oustanding journalist and writer.

He will remain forever in our memory as such.

[Signed] A group of comrades.

KUNAYEV ADDRESSES KAZAKHSTAN SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM SESSION

LD282140 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1505 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] A session of the new Kazakhstan Supreme Soviet Presidium formed at the first session of the republic's Supreme Soviet of the 10th Convocation was held 28 March chaired under the chairmanship of Imashev, chairman of the Kazakhstan Supreme Soviet Presidium. Under review were matters dealing with organizing the work of the Kazakhstan Supreme Soviet, its Presidium, and the standing commissions of the Supreme Soviet. The session of the Presidium was addressed by Comrade Kunayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee. In his speech he stressed the growing role played by the soviets of people's deputies in implementing the decisions of the 25th CPSU congress and the plans and socialist pledges of 1980 and the 5-year period as a whole. He dwelled on the basic tasks in the activity of the republic's Supreme Soviet and its Presidium. He drew special attention to the need to insure the fulfillment of the plan tasks by every enterprise and every worker, to further increase the productivity and quality of work and to carry out spring field work in an organized fashion.

Comrade Kunayev noted that it is the task of the soviets to exhibit daily concern for working people's living conditions and for further improving the work done by organs of people's education, public health, the trade network and all sectors providing services to the population. It is necessary to strengthen the supervision which insures that Soviet laws are strictly implemented and to constantly pay heed to matters pertaining to the observance of law and order. Ashimov, chairman of the Kazakhstan Council of Ministers took part in the work of the republic's Supreme Soviet Presidium.

REPORTAGE ON FLIGHT OF SALYUT-6 SPACE STATION

Functioning of Salyut-6

LD282016 Moscow TASS in English 1404 GMT 28 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 28, TASS--The research station in Salyut-6, launched into orbit on September 29, 1977, has been in space for two and a half years. During that period its onboard systems and equipment passed through lengthy trials both in piloted and automatic regimes. Operations conducted aboard the station helped preserve its efficiency and reliability. The flight of the station marked the beginning of another stage of cooperation between the countries of the socialist community within the framework of the Intercosmos program. Three international crews worked on the Salyut. Alongside Soviet cosmonauts, they included representatives of Czechoslovakia, Poland and the German Democratic Republic.

The Salyut has improved onboard hygienic conditions: It is fitted out with a shower and air ionizers with a pine odour. Medical specialists developed means alleviating the cosmonauts' stay in zero gravity. Among them are a "running track", a veloergometer, weighed penguin-type suits and chibis vacuum overalls.

Soviet Cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin established a record of man's stay in space--175 days. They retained a high level of capacity for work: They unloaded three freight craft, conducted more than 50 experiments on space materialogy and fulfilled an extensive program of scientific-technical and medico-biological experiments. The Salyut crews implemented a complex of important scientific-technical, and medico-biological studies.

A new important stage in cosmonautics started on January 22, 1978 when the automatic freight ship Progress-1 delivered for the first time fuel, equipment and apparatuses needed for the cosmonauts's life aboard the station, and for continuing their research. A considerable part of the flight program was devoted to the studies of the natural resources and the environment in the interests of the national economies of the Soviet Union and the countries of the socialist community.

Linking With Progress-8

LD292130 Moscow TASS in English 2126 GMT 29 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 30, TASS--At 23 hours 01 minutes Moscow time, March 29, 1980, the automatic freight transport ship Progress-8 linked up with the station Salyut-6 which has been in a space flight for two years and a half. The transport ship has taken to orbit cargoes needed for the further functioning of the scientific station Salyut-6.

Following manoeuvres in orbit, made on command from the Flight Control Centre, the Progress-8 entered the zone of operation of the onboard systems for the rendezvous of the ship and Salyut-6 station. These systems ensured the search, rendezvous, closing-up, docking and linkup of the two spacecraft. The Progress-8 is linked up with the docking unit in the station's equipment compartment.

At all stages of the rendezvous and docking of the space craft, effected by the means of ground command and measuring complex--which includes measuring centres in the territory of the Soviet Union and research vessels of the USSR Academy of Sciences staying in the world ocean--telemetric information from the Progress-8 and the Salyut-6 was reliably received on earth. According to telemetric information, the onboard systems of the station Salyut-6 and the freight ship Progress-6 are functioning normally.